

Steelmakers face new raw materials blockade

Steel manufacturers face a blockade on their supplies of oxygen, oil and other raw materials in a new move by the unions to sharpen the impact of the strike. Resistance against imports is to be stiffened. The unions present fresh pay proposals to the British Steel on Monday.

Order to drivers by transport union

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The Transport and General Workers' Union has sent a rare official instruction to its drivers to try to block supplies not only of steel but of oxygen, oil and other goods from British Steel Corporation industrial consumers who are still working normally.

Mr. Mustyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the TGWU, announcing the move yesterday at the end of a week-long infighting of the TGWU executive, said it was almost "unprecedented" to issue an instruction rather than a simple request.

The fresh steps to try to sharpen the impact of the strike have been taken in the belief that they will strengthen the bargaining position of the unions when they present fresh pay proposals to the corporation on Monday.

The TGWU has agreed with the main union in the strike, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, that picketing should be concentrated on manufacturing companies, which have so far escaped the effects of the strike.

The TGWU will expect road haulage members not to cross steelworkers' picket lines, set up in those circumstances whatever load they are carrying if it is required for production.

Local strike leaders, including those in the TGWU as well as the ISTC, are being asked by their national officers to identify companies that would normally have expected to have run out of steel by now if they were not being supplied by the corporation.

Mr. Evans said: "The best strategy is to look at BSC's biggest customers and ask how it is possible to continue at 100 per cent levels when no steel has been produced for nine weeks. The intention will be to have pickets at those companies in order to prevent production."

Mr. Ronald Todd, the national officer appointed by Mr. Evans to link with the ISTC, has also been entrusted with the task of

stiffening the blockade of steel at ports. In East Anglia, for example, steel is still getting through.

Against the background of fairly buoyant reports from the Confederation of British Industry that steel supplies are being maintained, the TGWU is concerned about smaller ports where steel cannot be "impounded" inside dock gates once it has been unloaded. In those cases the TGWU will be pressing dockers to stop unloading steel cargoes if they have not already done so.

Mr. Todd declined to speculate on which companies might be affected by the moves or whether they might include British Leyland or Ford, for which the BSC is only one of several suppliers in normal times. However, he made it clear that if steelworkers picketed those companies drivers would be expected to comply with the instruction.

Mr. Evans claimed that some BSC customers had been "shopping around Europe" for alternative steel supplies and in some cases entering into long-term contracts, which would ultimately damage BSC's trading position.

He said that the union was not seeking mass picketing of any company. "We are not suggesting that there should be any sort of aggro on the picket lines. We are not asking for hundreds of pickets."

In a further move the ISTC asked the TGWU to call on its members to examine cargo manifests detailing the contents of containers arriving at British ports in the belief that some may secretly contain imported steel.

The announcement yesterday of the moves had a clear propaganda effect as well as a practical one coming so soon before Monday afternoon's talks at which the 13 steel unions will be jointly presenting proposals to suggest increases negotiable between 14 and 18 per cent, dependent on the size of manpower cuts the management insists must be included in any agreement.

Shop stewards defer call for BL strike

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial
Correspondent

Three hundred senior shop stewards representing BL car plants yesterday rejected a call for immediate strike action over the management's 5 per cent pay offer and its demands for reforms in working practices.

Instead their meeting in Coventry accepted the recommendation of their representatives on the BL Cars joint negotiating committee that unless the management improved its offer it would force a strike when the present lay-offs and short-time working give way to full production.

Mr. Grenville Hawley, a national official of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and leader of the management team on the JNC, said that meant a possible strike in the late spring or early summer.

But the company is not prepared to wait. It is attempting to bypass the JNC by seeking an urgent meeting with national union leaders. A statement last night said: "14 meetings between the company and the unions on the BL Cars JNC no

progress has been made. This stage of the negotiations is therefore at an end and the company has written to the general secretaries of the hourly-paid unions involved, requesting an early meeting in order to bring the negotiations to a speedy conclusion."

The talks have dragged on for more than four months with the company insisting that it does not have the money to make a larger offer and that it must have union acceptance of working practice reforms if it is to become competitive.

The refusal of Longbridge workers to strike for the reinstatement of Mr. Derek Robinson, their dismissed convenor, and fears that permanent job losses would follow the company's poor sales performance have weakened support for strike action by the JNC.

Shop stewards hope that pressures, building up on management to put the all-important Mini-Metro into production by early summer will force concessions. They believe that the alternative course of industrial action by the company to impose its pay and conditions package would be so unpopular that workers would be angry enough to strike.

IRA bomb Army barracks on Salisbury Plain

The Irish terrorist group which murdered Mr. Airey Neave yesterday claimed responsibility for two explosions at Netheravon Army barracks on Salisbury Plain.

No one was hurt in the blasts caused by between 2lb and 5lb of explosive, although four NCOs were asleep nearby.

At first the Army said the explosions could have been caused by gas cylinders, but a caller claiming to be from the Irish National Liberation Army, claimed responsibility.

Mountbatten will

Lord Mountbatten of Burma, assassinated on August 27 last year when the IRA blew up his motor cruiser off the coast near his holiday home at Sligo, left £1,905,781 net in his will. Details were not disclosed.

Nuclear waste 'raises cancer risk'

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The findings of a new public health survey provides the most dramatic indication of an increase in cancer in a community from the discharge of nuclear wastes.

The details were presented last night at a meeting at University College, London, by Dr. Carl Johnson, of the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He is also the public health officer of the area in which a plutonium reprocessing plant, called Rocky Flats, has operated since 1953.

This nuclear fuel reprocessing factory, handling mainly weapons grade material, is the alleged cause of an excess in cancers of up to 24 per cent among men and 10 per cent among women in one area, and the cancers are largely of the type which are induced by radiation.

After the discovery, the

Whites advised to resist recriminations to help in making the new Zimbabwe a success

Mr Smith ready to work with the man he called Satan's apostle

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 7

Everybody else may have been shocked and amazed by the scale of Mr Robert Mugabe's election victory this week but not Mr Ian Smith, leader of the white Rhodesian Front party.

Addressing his first press conference since the election results were announced, Mr Smith said that he had predicted at the time of the Lancaster House conference a Patriotic Front victory and he had not changed his mind since then.

Some people had denounced him as an alarmist for making such a pronouncement, he said. However, the election had proved that he was still the realist he had always been.

There was nothing alarmist about Mr Smith's performance today, even though he was about to see power transferred into the hands of a man whom he had recently denounced as an apostle of Satan bent on transforming Rhodesia into a Marxist dictatorship at the point of a gun.

Calmly sitting in front of journalists assembled at his party's headquarters, he said he felt that there was still hope for the country's future.

Rhodesians, by which he meant white Rhodesians, should adopt a wait-and-see attitude towards the new Government. They should resist recriminations for deeds gone by and work together to make a success of "this new venture". He

added: "You never solve a problem by running away from it."

Mr Smith admitted that he did not really know what sort of problem he and his fellow whites faced. It was one thing to make friends with former enemies: Rhodesians were accustomed to doing that. But the question of accepting a different political philosophy was another matter. "This remains the big question mark", he said.

The trouble, he continued, was that he had not had very much contact with the new leaders—perhaps hardly surprising since Mr Smith was responsible for keeping most of them behind bars for a decade

after his unilateral declaration of independence.

However, he had been impressed, he said, by their ability at Lancaster House—"They certainly outwitted and out-manoeuvred the British"—and at a meeting with Mr Mugabe on Monday night he had found the Prime Minister-designate to be "forthright and responsible".

If Mr Mugabe and his party lived up to their post-election commitments then there was hope.

Mr Smith said that he would like to see the Rhodesian Front represented in the new government, although this question had not yet been discussed with Mr Mugabe. He would even be prepared to participate in that gov-

ernment—"much as I would like to avoid this. But if I was satisfied this was in the best interests of my country I would have no option."

A white presence in the new government would not only provide the Administration with invaluable political experience but would also bolster white confidence.

"We all know how in other parts of Africa where the white man left prematurely there was chaos and bankruptcy."

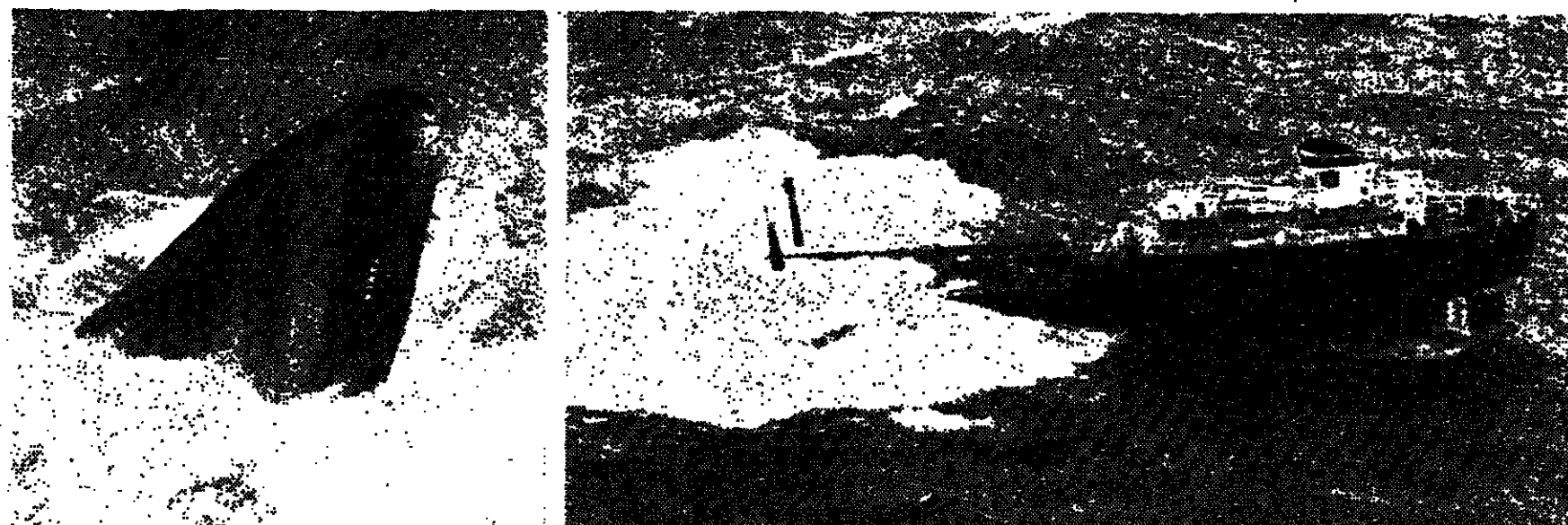
Mr Smith parried questions about why he felt Bishop Abel Muzorewa had performed so badly in the election, although it was clear from the slight smile passing over his face that he had firm opinions on why this had happened.

However, he could not resist a final swipe at what he perceived to be British treachery throughout the Rhodesian saga.

The British led them up the garden path all along, he said, and it was clear that the British Government had made up their minds to wash their hands of Rhodesia.

His tone was sad rather than angry, and he brightened perceptibly at the end of the press conference. A Nigerian journalist asked him to autograph two copies of a book entitled *A Short 1,000 Years*, a rather racy account of the progressive failure of UDL. "Is this a good book?" Mr Smith asked as he signed with a flourish.

Cabinet by Tuesday, page 4



The forward section of the tanker Tanio (left) after it broke in two yesterday. Attempts are being made to tow the rear section (right) to port.

Bad weather may avert oil disaster

From Ian Murray
Paris, March 7

The bodies of four members of the crew of the tanker Tanio, which broke in two in violent storms 30 miles off north-west France this morning, have been recovered. The apparently hopeless search continues for four

more missing crewmen, who were trapped on the forward part of the ship when towering waves tore it apart.

The other 31 members of the crew were rescued. Of these, 27 were taken to safety from the stern section of the ship by French Navy helicopters from their base at Landivisiau. Flying in appalling weather conditions, the rescuers also found and rescued three others who had been thrown into the sea. A British ship picked up the other crewman.

The storm was so violent that the two sections were driven

five miles apart by wind and waves before the forward section capsized and sank. The missing men were all on this section. They include Captain Jean Morvan, aged 53, and M. Louis Ardant, the first officer, aged 51.

Just what the dangers are of and the storm, which is blowing ashore and is not yet known. The forward section of the ship sank with its holds full of oil but the wreck is a long way offshore and the storm, which is blowing westwards, could help to break up oil slicks.

The Tanio was registered in Madagascar. She had taken on

26,000 tonnes of "number two" heavy fuel oil at Wilhelmshaven in West Germany and was sailing to Italy.

She sent out a distress signal early this morning, but help could not be sent because it took an hour in the stormy conditions to locate her position. Apart from the helicopters, an ocean-going tug and six French Navy vessels made for the area.

The rescue fleet was equipped with chemical products to disperse hydrocarbons. It represents part of the emergency plan that was devised in France after the disastrous wreck of the

Amoco Cadiz on the Brittany coast two years ago.

Yesterday the bad weather was making it impossible for the anti-pollution ships to spread their chemicals on a large slick, more than a mile long, which was caused by the collapse of one of the oil tanks. The 30ft high waves also made it impossible for the tug to get a line to the rear section and start to tow it to a safe place.

The oil on the Tanio has a density of 0.96. It was the sixth tanker to sink in the area since 1967, when the Torrey Canyon went aground on the Isles of Scilly.

Conference will show 100 school children 'what a revolution will be like'

By Ian Bradley

About a hundred school children from all over Britain will be receiving lessons in revolution at a weekend conference which starts in London today.

The conference is being organized by Red Rebel, the youth organization of the Socialist Workers' Party, which says it has a membership of nearly a thousand children and young apprentices.

Advertisements for the conference that have appeared in the party's newspaper, *Socialist Worker*, say: "Find out what a revolution will be like, how the state and the police control our lives, how we could control our lives, what sex means to us. Find out how to disrupt your school in six easy lessons."

One of the organizers said that the conference, at the Polytechnic of Central London, would be "quite political and

sensible and not as wild as the advertisements might suggest."

Speakers will include Mr Paul Foot and the three full-time organizers of the National Union of School Students.

One of the main aims of Red Rebel is to encourage trade union consciousness among school children. The culmination of the conference will come tomorrow when the participants, aged between 12 and 17, join the TUC's demonstration against the Government's Employment Bill.

The polytechnic said yesterday: "The booking has been made by the students' union in their own name. There is no mention of the Red Rebel organization."

The polytechnic is financed by the Inner London Education Authority, whose policy is to leave such day-to-day matters as the use of the polytechnic's premises to the directors.

Pupils on march, page 3

Post Office threatens to end £38m railways contract

By Bill Johnstone

The Post Office is dissatisfied with the service it gets from British Rail and is threatening to withdraw its £38m annual contract and seek alternative methods of transport.

Talks are taking place between both corporations to find a solution. The Post Office has estimated that on any one day half a million letters and parcels are delayed in the rail network around Britain.

The Post Office daily uses about 4,000 trains to carry mail and is particularly sensitive about first-class deliveries since its advertising guarantees delivery within 24 hours of posting.

It illustrates its case by moni-

toring key trains which carry large volumes of first-class mail from sorting offices in the North bound for London and from Southend with mail from the South for distribution throughout Britain.

The "up special" train leaving Scotland and travelling through the North picking up 80,000 first-class letters a day has an unacceptable level of delays, the Post Office claims.

The other key train from Southend carries 3,000 bags of mail each day from the sorting office at 5.30 pm. The Post Office said it monitored this service last November and found that the train was late on seven occasions out of 21.

US interest rates go to a record level

Banks in the United States again pushed their prime rates higher. Most large banks raised the rate by a half point to a record 17 per cent, but one bank went as high as 18 per cent. Money was being converted into dollars on the United States market for most of the day, attracted by the high interest rates. German, Swiss and Japanese central

banks were again selling dollars to support their own currencies. Sterling has fallen sharply in the last week but has not been under such selling pressure in the exchange markets as other usually hard currencies. The Central Bankers' meeting in Basel on Monday will discuss the impact of the United States money measures on world markets.

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Italians seize 44 passports

Forty-four Italian citizens have had their passports impounded by a Rome magistrate over allegations of a secret 70,000m lire (£38m) slush fund at the Italian savings bank which is also under investigation for alleged illegal loans. Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Prime Minister, faced a barrage of parliamentary questions on the scandal which has led to the resignation of the Minister of Merchant Marine.

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Last roll call for Colditz survivors

114 survivors of Colditz Castle, the wartime Nazi prison for habitual escapees, gathered for possibly their last reunion at the Imperial War Museum in London. All agreed that the camp's regime bore no resemblance to the BBC television series.

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'Green top' milk partially banned

Sales of untreated "green top" milk are to be partially banned from 1983 in Scotland and parts of the United Kingdom from 1985. The decision comes after cases of food poisoning traced to such milk.

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Leader page, 13
Letters: On priorities in education, from Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, and Lord Stewart of Fulham; on orchestral cuts, from Mr Ray Whitney, MP; on hearing for pensioners, from Mrs Margaret Churcher.

Leading articles: West Germany and Soviet expansion; Death to the dolphins.

Features, page 12
Moving Philae's ancient monuments to safety: Sportswear on the future structure of boxing: Letter from Manaus in the Amazon jungle.

Saturday Review, pages 6-11
Orson Welles, by Penelope Houston; collecting chess, travel, bridge, gardening.

Arts, page 8
Patricia Barnes talks to Valentina and Leonid Kozlov; Stanley Reynolds on *Kare*; The Good Neighbor (BBC 1); Stanley Sadt on Loren Massey's fifteenth birthday concert; Ned Chaffet on *The*

'Recall Labour conference' plea

The Transport and General Workers' Union is to ask for an urgent recall of the Labour Party conference, mainly to attempt to stiffen opposition to the Government's economic policies.

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Syrians leave east Beirut

The Syrian Army withdrew its tanks from the outskirts of the Christian section of east Beirut and Lebanese troops took up positions along the highways east of the city. Syrian troops kept control of the Muslim western quarters.

Page 4

Fish at risk: Government scientists say risks of several species of fish will be at risk off British coasts this year.

Page 2

Jerusalem: Angry Israel protests against Britain over Palestinians.

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Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 10, 24; Postal shoppers, 10; Apartments, 10; Property, 10; Home and garden, 23.

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Primary English Class (Wyndham's)

Obituary, page 14

Dr E. A. Underwood, Sir Douglas Waring, Mr Norman Preston, Mr Noel Croucher, Mr Roger Hawkins.

Sport, pages 15, 16

Football: Norman Fox previews FT Cup sixth round; Boxing: WBA refuse to recognize Ali's proposed comeback bout; Rugby Union: Peter West previews John Player Cup quarter-finals; Cricket: Australians make good start in second Test against Pakistan.

Business News, pages 17-21

Stock Markets: Equities dull but gilts showed slight gains after increase in United States interest rates. The FT Index closed at 453.7, 2.3 down.

Personal investment and finance: The pension industry reviews a year's work; taxation and why it will pay to invest in life assurance before April 6; an investor looks at the week in the stock market.

Compulsory seat belts Bill is dead

The Bill to make the use of car seat belts compulsory is dead, its principal sponsor said last night after parliamentary time ran out when its opponents adopted delaying tactics.

Mr Neil Carmichael, Labour MP for Kilmarnock, said that he was very disappointed.

"There is no possibility of success at all now", he added.

Mr Ivor Lawrence, Conservative MP for Burton, one of the Bill's chief opponents, hailed the outcome as "a victory for freedom".

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents said: "It is an enormous shame that this opportunity of saving lives on the roads has again been lost by politicians."

Parliamentary report, page 3

Mr Ford sounds ready for a comeback

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 7

Mr Gerald Ford, the former President, is sounding daily more like a man who wants his old job back. He dropped a heavy hint last night that he would announce that he is a candidate on March 20, which would be just after the Illinois primary and just in time for him to enter primary in his home state, Michigan, and in Ohio.

He said in a television interview that he was waiting for those leading Republicans who have been urging him to come out of retirement to make their urgings public. In Washington, Mr Thomas Reed, a former secretary for the Air Force, announced yesterday that he had formed a "draft Ford committee". State officials in Maryland and Tennessee, unbidden, have a list of Ford's name on the ballot for their primaries.

In the interview, Mr Ford said: "The most important point is that the polls reflect that I would be the most electable Republican candidate against the Democratic nominee. The truth is, that I would feel an obligation (to run) if there is a legitimate, broad-based, in-depth request from respectable people. I am just old-fashioned enough, I guess, to respond to that kind of request."

Mr Ford first reemerged into the limelight a week ago when he observed that Mr Ronald Reagan could not win the general election in November. This caused Mr Reagan immense annoyance.

Opinion polls have long illustrated Mr Ford's contention: when asked at different times last year how they rated various combinations of Democratic and Republican candidates, the chosen sample of electors always showed that any Democrat would find Mr Reagan the easiest of serious Republican candidates to beat.

Mr Reagan has argued that polls taken last year have no relevance to the situation this year. Mr Ford still believes them.

He is now behaving much as Senator Hubert Humphrey did in 1976. Mr Humphrey hovered on the brink of announcing his candidacy for months, finally giving up the idea when Mr Carter had established a clear lead in the primaries.

Connally campaign, page 4

Why some people are less alarmed by fuel price increases than others.

In the next few months gas will go up over 25%, electricity by over 20%—even coal is going up by 20%. And it's anybody's guess where oil will finish up. All of which is coming on top of the exceptional fuel price rises of the past five years.

No household in Britain is unaffected. But a small select group is less affected than others: those with solar heating systems. A Spencer Solarise system can save up to 50% of the water heating costs for an average family. So naturally, as the price of fossil fuels goes up, the value of the savings a solar heating system can bring goes up as well.

In fact, if recent experience is anything to go by, the money you save each year can only increase. Which considerably softens the blow of fuel price rises!

Then there is the encouraging fact that solar heating is a home improvement which is therefore eligible for tax relief: carries no VAT; and, like proper insulation, increases the value and attractiveness of your home if you decide to sell.

And when you choose Spencer Solarise you have the confidence of knowing that you've chosen the company with more experience of the basic technology behind solar heating than any other company in the market. We are a subsidiary of Neil & Spencer—a world leader for forty years in laundry, dry cleaning and textile processing equipment, and a winner of a Queen's Award to Industry.

Which means, quite simply, we are one of the few solar heating companies with the sort of pedigree that makes a first-year guarantee worthwhile.

For more information on solar heating systems, write to: Spencer Solarise Ltd, 10, The Quadrant, London W1A 1AA.

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Partial ban placed on untreated milk sales after poisoning cases

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Ministers announced yesterday that there was to be a partial ban on sales of untreated milk, starting in 1983 in Scotland and in 1985 in the rest of the United Kingdom.

Several cases of food poisoning have been traced to such milk, which is sold by about 4,000 of the 50,000 dairy farmers in the United Kingdom.

It was clear that ministers had disagreed about the measure, which comes after a review by the Conservatives of the policy adopted by the Labour government in 1973. That was to ban sales of untreated milk from the summer of 1983.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, has decided to continue the Labour policy there. Ministers responsible for the rest of the country have inserted an important loophole which will allow farmers to continue selling to individuals but not to shops or canteens.

Mr Younger said in a parliamentary written reply yesterday: "There is little evidence of positive consumer demand for untreated milk. Ministers have decided to ban sales to institutions because they believe that those who drink such milk should know what they are drinking."

When untreated milk is sold in shops it carries a green cap to distinguish it from pasteurized milk. Ministers have accepted evidence from health authorities that the green cap is not distinctive enough, and that untreated milk should be labelled as such.

They have also accepted that it may be served in canteens from jugs or in glasses so that those drinking it will not realise that it is untreated.

The Government has decided to phase out the cost of installing pasteurising machinery on farms where the owners want to change from untreated to treated milk sales. The NFU is opposed to such aid which would be granted if the right to sell untreated milk was to be restricted.

Last roll call sounds for Colditz survivors

By Alan Hamilton

Sonder Appel, the midnight roll call that so often provided the first indication of a successful escape over the wire, was sounded yesterday for what may be the last time, and produced a head count of 114 former unwilling guests of Nazi hospitality at Colditz castle.

Former inmates of the elite German rest home for habitual escapees gathered from the four corners of the world at the Imperial War Museum in London for what was not the first, but was certainly the largest, reunion of old boys from a terrible experience, the true colour of which has been tinted by the varnish of romance.

The reunion was born out of a party given by the BBC in 1974 to celebrate the making of the television drama series based on the events of Colditz. A group of about 70 survivors was present at that time. One of them, Lieutenant-Commander Mike Moran, then determined to have a final fling with as many as possible of the 130 known to be still living, who were under the command of the Senior British Officer.

Stars came, like Sir Douglas Bader and Pat Reid, and forgotten heroes too, the Poles, the French and Belgians. Mr Alfred Dreyer, who recalled how, in contrast to the inevitably sleek portrayal of the television actors, the real-life Belgian prisoners had been reduced to slaughtering, grilling and consuming the dead cat.

Old lags from Sydney and Nassau greeted each other for the first time since the American liberation of May, 1945, and talked of tunnels and jam alcohol. Behind the bonhomie was the ever-present reminder that it was not as it was in the films.

"We were very cold and very hungry all the time," Mr George Price, who escaped unsuccessfully twice, said. "We all went down to half our usual weight, and stayed that way," said the author, said. "We lived on potato gruel and scraps of vegetables."

But there were worse places than Colditz, so why should the legend and the comradeship survive? "We were the elite criminals of the Allied forces. If the Germans put all their attempted escapees under one roof they were asking for trouble," Mr John Hoggard said. "It is simply a great adventure story," Mr Reid added.

Among the guests were two former Senior British officers



Lady Neave, Airey Neave's widow, talking to Colonel Guy German.

Photograph by John Manning

at the camp, Colonel Guy German, now aged 77, who took charge of the first intake at Christmas, 1940, and Major-General "Tubby" Broomhall, now 82, who took command in 1943. Unlike some other wartime old boys' clubs, the Colditz crew do not invite their German counterparts.

Commander Moran, the architect of yesterday's reunion, is canvassing support for a fourth anniversary reunion to mark Colditz's day of liberation, but there seemed to be a feeling yesterday that it may all

have gone on long enough, and besides the members of the elite band are beginning, like all old soldiers, to fade away.

In four-and-a-half years of incarceration, only 10 British prisoners successfully made the journey over the wire to "Blighy". The first to do so was not present yesterday, having survived the rigours of a prison camp only to perish in another, less heroic war, under the very clock tower that meant home to the men of Colditz. He was represented by his widow, Lady Neave.

Obstruction by son of ex-minister

By Peter Wainwright

Christopher Marsh, aged 18, the son of Sir Richard Marsh, the former Labour Cabinet minister, was found guilty at Hove Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday of obstructing the police during a right-to-work demonstration.

Mr Marsh and two other men were given conditional discharge for 12 months. The magistrates convicted Mr Marsh despite a claim by Mr Marsh's father that the defendant was a student of Crossfield Road, Swiss Cottage, and Jonathan Flagg, of Glendon House, Hackney, both London, denied obstructing the police during the demonstration outside County Hall, Julian Bild, also of Glendon House, denied insulting behaviour.

Police-constable Mark McKay said Mr Bild was arrested after he had insulted guests arriving for a banquet. Mr Marsh tried to stop officers putting Mr Bild into a police van and Mr Marsh held the van door and would not let go, he said.

Mr Marsh told the court he had gone to see why Mr Bild was being arrested. He denied holding the van door.

Crates held £2m load of cannabis

By Peter Wainwright

Cannabis with a street trading value of about £2m has been seized by Scottish Customs and Excise officers, it was disclosed yesterday. It is the largest cannabis haul in Scotland.

The cannabis, weighing about a ton, came from a cargo ship, the Cariba Express, which arrived at Greenock towards the end of February from Kingston, Jamaica.

It was concealed in two crates in a container and was found by customs officers 35 miles from the port, at a container terminal in Coatbridge, Lanarkshire.

The Customs and Excise Department said: "We know consignments from the West Indies are being smuggled and this is the third very substantial seizure from West Indian traffic."

The haul was discovered during a routine check of freight containers. The Cariba Express was due to dock at Greenock, but was rerouted to Glasgow.

Assembly call by Scottish Labour Party

From Ronald Faux

Perth

Embers of the devolution debate glowed angrily during the opening day of the Labour Party Scottish conference in Perth yesterday. Delegates overwhelmingly approved a commitment to a Scottish assembly, "with meaningful powers over the economy of Scotland."

That went further than the defeated Scotland Act, which would not have given the assembly such powers.

The resolution, moved by the Scottish area of the National Union of Mineworkers and seconded by the Transport and General Workers' Union, asked for a firm commitment for a directly elected assembly to be included in the next Labour manifesto.

It concluded that devolution for Scotland was an extension of democracy allowing people to be more involved in tackling matters affecting the Scottish economy.

Mr Dennis Canavan, MP for Strathgordon, West, said devolution meant a lot to the Scottish working man. He believed people now saw the relevance

of an assembly. "It might mean less to a man who lives in a big house in West Lothian and was educated at Eton. It might not have relevance for him, but for the ordinary working man it has."

Mr Canavan, an arch opponent of devolution, had told the conference that a Scottish assembly was unnecessary and irrelevant. No one in their right mind, he said, could believe that it would be able to handle the difficulties now facing the Labour Party.

Even if it was Labour-controlled, it would not be able to hold out against many of Mrs Thatcher's policies on spending, unemployment and trade union reform.

For five long, hard years civil servants who were both clever and able, and ministers tried to find an acceptable form

Council tenants given scope to switch homes

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Government has accepted a plan to improve housing mobility among council tenants through England and Wales, with possible extension to Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The plan was produced by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, the London Boroughs' Association and the Association of District Councils at the request of the Department of the Environment, with the aim of facilitating tenants' moves between authorities.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, announcing the scheme during the debate on the Housing Bill, said each authority will make available a number of lettings annually for people needing to move into its area from within the same county.

Each district council, the London boroughs and the Greater London Council will make 1 per cent of its lettings available for people seeking to move in from another county.

Labour inquiry team to report in October

By John Grosse

After a meeting yesterday at the House of Commons of Labour's commission of inquiry, set up to formulate changes in the party's organisation, observers were left to marvel at the dexterity with which the three joint chairmen, Messrs Eric Heffer, David Bannett and Michael Foot, had patched up the disputes within the commission and applied some cosmetic surgery.

It was all very dull, Mr Heffer said. "A question really of organisational nuts and bolts," was how he described the meeting, conjuring up the spectre of a sort of socialist "Frankenstein's monster" having life breathed into it on the operating table that Labour leaders had led us to believe was the battleground for the soul of the party.

The commission's aim was to get rid of Mrs Thatcher and her Government as soon as possible, Mr Heffer vouchsafed, and to that end he hoped its work would be completed in time for a report to be presented to Labour's annual conference in October.

First reports had been received from the three specialist

panels under the chairmanship of Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, Mr Clive Jenkins and Mr Wedgwood Benn, set up to examine respectively organization and membership, finance, and political education.

There was some discussion of coopting still more members to the specialist panels, Mr Heffer said.

The finance panel, which had been taking evidence since its inception, had provided the commission with an "informal paper", but no vote had so far been taken on that, or indeed on anything else.

Mr Bannett, who at the press conference sat on Mr Heffer's right, which some thought significant, and on Mr Foot's left, announced that the whole commission would be going round the regions. "I do not know how I will find time for my union work," he said.

No one could say, whether the report would be unanimous, Mr Heffer pointed out. But at its summer session in Hertfordshire, from June 12 to 14, the commission would work in earnest to present bold, not to say united, front in preparing the report.

Pupils march on schools to protest against cuts

From Our Correspondent

About fifty children stood in Riddley Lane, Luton, shouting at Icknield pupils in the playground. There, teachers ordered the children not to approach the fence too closely, and a prefect picked up leaflets forced through the fence.

Daniel Aston, aged 17, an organizer for the NUSS, who wore a socialist Socialist Workers' Party badge, said: "They talk about the children, but these children are not being given the freedom to choose to join our protest."

"We are not political. We are simply fighting for justice, an end to school uniforms, the cane, and the education cuts."

Children organized a march to call at various schools in the Luton area. They went to Chalfont school, then on to Lea Manor school, finally arriving at Icknield school, in a more expensive area of the town.

Housing Bill 'loopholes'

By Robin Young

Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The National Consumer Council has warned the Government that its Housing Bill will leave loopholes in the Rent Act and blocked and open new ones for voracious landlords to exploit.

Mr Jeremy Mitchell, director of the council, has written to Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, saying that he expects hardship and homelessness for private tenants because of the Bill.

A recent survey by the National Advice Bureau showed widespread avoidance of the Rent Acts.

The National Consumer Council suggests that a clause should be added to the Bill to counter five specific devices by which landlords are known to deprive their tenants of Rent Act protection.

The council says that if shorthold tenancies are introduced to make more accommodation available for letting it is incomprehensible that landlords should be allowed to enter letting tenants to create short-holds.

They also object to a clause in the Bill that would allow landlords to cancel registered rents on their properties while tenants were in residence.

RAC vans may be white to protect patrols

By Peter Wainwright

Moving Correspondent

The Royal Automobile Club is reporting with all-white vehicles because of concern at the risks facing patrols attending breakdowns on the hard shoulders of motorways.

An RAC spokesman was killed and another injured while attending a breakdown on the M4 motorway near Bristol last year.

Mr Eric Charles, chief executive of RAC's emergency service, said yesterday: "Our main aim is to make our vehicles more conspicuous at all times, especially at night and in bad weather."

If the experiment is successful the RAC will abandon its traditional blue and white livery and patrol with all-white vehicles equipped with flashing lights and additional reflective material.

Government 'going soft' on protecting green belts

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

Britain's green belt areas were under increasing pressure from the Government, Mr Roland Wade, chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said last night.

He told a meeting of the Surrey and Sussex Council at Guildford: "We are gobbling up rural England at a frightening rate. According to the latest official figures, 75,000 acres of land is lost to agriculture every year. That means that the whole of Surrey is lost every six years."

Mr Wade argued that one of the best ways of stopping the drain was to hold firm to the green belts, "but there are very disturbing signs that the Government is going soft on them."

In his book, "The Backing, Hampshire, the county councils had put up admirably firm green-belt policies in their structure plans, only to see them gravely weakened by the Department of the Environment."

Ex-soldier 'went berserk' over missing family

From Our Correspondent

Nottingham

When Michael Laurie, aged 28, a former lance-corporal in the Army, arrived home to find his wife and children had left, and the lodge had also disappeared, he went berserk, Mr John Milmo, for the prosecution, said at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

He swallowed two bottles of tranquillizer tablets and set off down the M1 in his van. Other motorists saw the van swerving from side to side and informed the police.

After crashing his van he hijacked a police car that had forced him to stop outside the Royal Victoria Hospital, Nottinghamshire, counsel added. He parked the police car in the central lane and kept the officers covered with a loaded shotgun.

Mr Dudley Bennett, for the defence, said Mr Laurie found that his wife, who was suffering from nerves because of her husband's duties in Northern Ireland, had taken the children to her mother's home in Surrey. The lodge had left the Laurie's house in Austin Drive, Sheffield, because he was wanted by the police. He added: "Laurie never intended firing the gun."

Mr Justice Drake gave Mr Laurie, now of Stanley Road, Redlands, Bristol, a two-year suspended jail sentence.

Police wrongdoings must be exposed, Mr Whitelaw says

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

There must be no cover-up of wrongdoing in the police service, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, said yesterday in a Westminster Television lecture. "There must be an effective, formal procedure for investigating allegations and bringing criminal or disciplinary proceedings where necessary," he added.

Mr Whitelaw said that much had been heard recently about allegations of wrongdoing by police officers, about corruption, harassment and unlawful violence.

"It is a measure of the high standards we expect of our police that we are so ready to criticize them. It is a reflection of their importance that we demand, and rightly demand, that wrongdoers among them should be sought out."

He continued: "We must not let the publicity which inevitably, and rightly, attaches to a police officer who abuses the trust we place in him blind us to the fact that for every such officer there are hundreds of

Three-class service on some BA long routes

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

British Airways is to introduce three classes of service instead of two into the cabins of Boeing 747 jumbo jets on some of its long-distance routes, but first-class is to be retained.

The airline caused a stir in commercial aviation last month by announcing the ending of first-class travel on European routes. Air France has introduced a similar system on the Paris-London and Paris-Nice routes, but Lufthansa, the West German airline, is declining to fall into line.

British Airways' jumbos flying between London and Canada, Hongkong and Japan will, from April 1, be divided into first, club and tourist classes. Club class is aimed at the business traveller, who will be offered fuller in-flight service than those sitting in tourist, with a choice of meal, free drinks and free in-flight entertainment.

Club-class passengers will have separate check-in desks at airports and will be able to change their travel plans at no extra cost.

Mr Roy Watts, chief executive of British Airways, said yesterday that the tourist traveller who wanted low fares but would accept "good but quite simple standards."

"We are not thinking of dropping in-flight catering in tourist class, as we are contemplating in Europe," he added. "Tokyo is still a long way to go on a lunch box."

The three-class concept has been tried on BA's services to the United States. To improve service in the first-class cabin, the airline is now to fit fully reclining "dormer seats" at the end of the summer on Rolls-Royce-powered 747s to the United States west coast, the Far East, Australia and Africa.

PARLIAMENT, March 7, 1980

Seat belt Bill fails to make progress

House of Commons

Resuming the debate on the report of the Road Traffic (Seat Belts) Bill and on a new clause (Report on the operation of the Act) Mr Ivan Lawrence (Barnet) said it was difficult to see why the spirit behind the new clause could not be accepted.

The clause stated that the minister should within two years of the coming into operation of the Act and then annually lay a report on the operation of it before Parliament.

Mr Lawrence said that it was astonishing that with a matter so desperately important as this Bill was claimed to be by its sponsors, and so urgently required as some organizations declared, there was so little clear evidence about its working.

Mr Neil Carmichael (Glasgow, Kelvingrove, Lab), the sponsor of the new clause, said that he would accept the new clause.

Mr Lawrence said that it was often said that Australia was an example of how this sort of legislation worked. The figures for the reduction in deaths and injuries in Australia since the introduction of the compulsory wearing of seat belts was coincidental with the reduction of the speed limit to 60 mph.

Not much is known about the responses of ordinary people to this legislation. The minister himself at one stage in the committee stage said it would be necessary to seek the advice and get the opinions of the public. That was an extraordinary statement since the views of the police were so fundamental to the purpose of the Bill.

It was important for there to be a proper monitoring process because the police at this stage appeared to be divided. If after the operation of the Bill they were seen either to remain divided or to come out on one side or the other that would be a matter which should not only be closely monitored and taken account of but which the House should consider.

Mr David Trippier (Rossendale, C) said there should be monitoring during a two-year period. The fact that the Bill would be difficult to enforce was one of its great weaknesses, and it might prove to be an infringement of personal liberty.

There could be a groundswell of feeling against the police of British people who would object to being told what they had to do. Sir Ronald Hoare (Barnet, C) said the value of the report would be to provide an authentic gathering together of facts and opinions on the subject of seat belt legislation.

The difficulty was MPs were debating this matter in the absence of the proper information and the proper information that information to clamp compulsion upon the British people.

The Bill would create 10 times as many martyrs as did the crash helmets law. The country was full of people who wanted to do good to others by compulsion. People could not keep their noses out of the business of other people and never lacked some argument to justify their action.

If there was to be some saving in the cost of the health service by the wearing of seat belts, that would be nothing like the saving that would ensue by requiring pedestrians in towns to wear crash helmets. It was, in fact, the kind of thing the Swedes might do.

The police had enough duties which exacerbated their public relations, without adding the most unenviable task of prosecuting people for not putting on their seat belt. The public would be unhappy about the police involvement in that.

Far too much of the time and manpower of the police was devoted to harassing the motorist instead of protecting the citizen in his home.

A motion to close the debate resulted in 15 votes for and 13 against, and then, as fewer than 100 MPs voted in the majority, the motion was declared not to have been decided in the affirmative.

The debate was adjourned a few minutes later.

The Concessionary Travel for Handicapped Persons (Scotland) Bill passed the remaining stages.

Petition to change law on disposal of body

A petition calling for Parliament

to pass legislation granting the next of kin full freedom of choice over the means of disposal of a deceased person's body was presented by Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing, North, C).

He said the petition was from Mr Ernest Good, a constituent of his, who had just said it was his wish to bury his son with his first wife in the grave of his first wife as she had wished and as he knew his son had wished.

It was presented from doing this by the law as it stood which

£300m research on atom smasher

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

The British Government is to be invited to join in a £300m research project that could confirm the third of Einstein's theories. That was his formula: "A uniform theory of fields, force," designed to link gravitation and electromagnetism; the first layman's explanation of the mathematics appeared just 50 years ago in *The Times*.

The plan is for a new type of particle accelerator, more popularly known as an atom smasher, to be built in a tunnel of 30 kilometres circumference for the European Centre for Nuclear Research, near Geneva.

That branch of physics is usually referred to as one of the big sciences because of the cost of the machines used in the experiments. But it is a subject in which there has been a flood of important discoveries in the past four or five years.

High energy physicists feel that a clear understanding of the basic structure of matter and of the forces that govern

its behaviour is within their grasp.

The drawback is that with each big advance a larger and more expensive experimental machine is needed to test theory. That has meant that most high-energy physics research by European universities and institutes has been done on a collaborative basis at the European Centre for Nuclear Research.

The last of the accelerators at the centre came into operation only four years ago. But such apparatus takes four or five years to build, and will include the accurate drilling of a tunnel big enough to take an underground train under the foothills of the Jura, so plans must be made at an early date.

About 400 physicists and engineers from the 12 member-nations of the research centre have contributed to the preparatory design work. Yesterday the governing council of the organization approved the project, which has to be put formally to each government.

The accelerator has the acronym LEP, standing for Large Electron Positron ring,

which describes the type of method chosen for extending exploration into the world of quarks and leptons, and the phenomenon called gluon which helps them to stick together.

The British contribution has to be agreed through the Science Research Council. Enthusiasm among the relevant physics committees for the project is very strong. But at a recent examination of the idea, Sir Geoffrey Allen, chairman of the council, cautioned them to keep the matter in perspective.

He supported LEP, and he said CERN was the right place for it because of its high standing in international esteem and because collaboration through the centre with the United States and Russia was a good policy for international science.

But the Science Research Council had to support fundamental research for all the sciences. It might not be possible for the council to adopt a programme for LEP that would move as quickly as the direct-general at CERN might like, and the British contribution had to be in terms the Science Research Council could afford.

The extraordinary Korda brothers

Alexander Korda was the

real founder of the British film industry. He put actors like Olivier, Laughton and Richardson on the road to stardom.

He was the intimate friend of Winston Churchill and H. G. Wells: both wrote scripts for him. With his brothers, Zoltan and Vincent, he was destined to conquer London and storm Hollywood.

A first long extract from the new biography of the three extraordinary Korda brothers, *Charmed Lives*, written by Vincent Korda's son, Michael Korda, appears in *The Sunday Times* tomorrow.

WEST EUROPE

Italy to hold passports of 44 suspects in banking scandal

From John Earle, Rome, March 7

A Rome magistrate has ordered the impounding of the passports of 44 Italian citizens, 40 of whom are suspected of involvement in the scandal of the "black" funds of Italcasse, the Central Institute of Savings Banks. This is a separate, parallel case to that of the "white" funds, in which the bankers and industrialists were arrested this week for approving huge loans by Italcasse without proper guarantees.

The "black" scandal concerns under-the-counter payments for a so-called "fund" of more than 70,000 lire (about £38m) handled by Signor Giuseppe Arcaini during his 20 years as director general. He died last year.

The 44 who may not leave the country pending the investigations are less prominent figures than those of the bankers and industrialists held under the "white" scandal. It is called "white" because the loans were recorded on the books even if, as alleged, they should not have been made. The 44 include, however, Signor Sereno Freato, for years a close collaborator of Aldo Moro, the murdered Christian Democratic statesman as well as five sons and daughters of the late Signor Arcaini.

The magistrates have, in this connection, applied to take action against some party financiers, or former treasurers, for allegedly receiving under-cover funds on behalf of their parties.

But the men—Signor Filippo Micheli and Signor Raffaele Ruffini—were not party financiers, but party treasurers, or former treasurers, for allegedly receiving under-cover funds on behalf of their parties.

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 7

American troops advancing westwards across Europe 35 years ago pulled up the Rhine and could not believe their eyes.

There below them was a railway bridge inexplicably left intact by the retreating German troops, the only bridge still standing across the Rhine. Its seizure and the colossal shipments of men and arms shunted across it before the collapse under the strain 10 days later considerably hastened the end of the Second World War.

Today, on the 35th anniversary of the capture of the bridge at Remagen, a museum was opened in the western tower which, with its companion on the other side, is all that is left of the bridge. The museum fulfils a long-standing ambition of Herr Hans Pater Kirtzen, the mayor of Remagen, who for years has been collecting photographs, letters, books, films and other materials documenting the fight for the bridge. Among them are excerpts from the Hollywood film *The Bridge at Remagen*, a highly dramatized account which was seen by millions.

Herr Kirtzen's dream only started coming true, however, about two years ago when the

Signor Francesco Cossiga, the

Prime Minister, faced a barrage of questions in Parliament today on the Italcasse scandal and on the resignation of Signor Franco Evangelisti, the Minister of Merchant Marine. Signor Evangelisti, a close associate of Signor Giulio Andreotti, the former Prime Minister, had admitted taking money from one of the main defaulter on a loan from Italcasse, Signor Gaetano Calitragne, a Rome builder.

Admitting that public opinion was preoccupied over the whole affair, Signor Cossiga, maintaining, however, that the Italian banking system was "fundamentally healthy, correct and solid". Urgent attention nevertheless needed to be given to certain juridical and operational aspects of it, if there were not to be "more grave consequences". If the criteria for lending were distorted, this could lead to "ambiguous manoeuvres and incorrect operations".

Signor Cossiga promised that the Government would act to fill the numerous vacancies at the heads of public sector banks, and would apply standards of personal competence and efficiency. (In the past the Christian Democrats have often been accused of putting party loyalty before competence.)

Signor Attilio Ruffini, the Foreign Minister, has been questioned by a magistrate investigating certain fringe aspects in the case of Signor Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier on trial now in New York in connection with the failure of the Franklin National Bank.

A Christian Democrat from Palermo, Signor Ruffini answered questions about his links with the Sindona brothers, one of whom was arrested last autumn when carrying an alleged letter from Signor Sindona, who at that time had disappeared.

EEC import plan aimed at helping Third World

From Michael Heppelby, Brussels, March 7

Tighter controls on imports from the most "competitive" developing countries were recommended here today by the European Commission with the double intention of protecting the EEC's declining industries and creating more room for the Community's markets for other Third World suppliers.

This approach, the Commission said, should form the future basis of the EEC's operation of the generalized system of preferences (GSP) which was initiated in 1970 under the aegis of the United Nations conference on trade and development (Unctad). Most industrialized countries now apply it.

Although the scheme could have advantages for the less dynamic but emerging industrial economies of the Third World, such as those of India and Mexico, the developing countries as a whole may well regard it as being designed more to protect the Community's own industries than anything else.

The EEC's present GSP scheme expires at the end of the year and in its replacement to the Council of Ministers, which will be turned over to a new, detailed formal proposal later this year, the Commission says that the new scheme should run for 20 years, with provision for review every five years.

Under the GSP the Community allows developing countries duty-free entry for their industrial exports, within specified limits and partial exemption from duties for their agricultural exports.

Under the Commission's proposal, the more competitive countries would be subject to new rules limiting the export to the EEC of "sensitive" goods likely to undermine the livelihood of the Community's own producers.

OVERSEAS

Hostages' move looks imminent

From Dan van der Var, Salisbury, March 7

The process of forming the first Government of independent Zimbabwe gathered speed today as the spokesman for Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister-designate, announced that a Cabinet list would be produced by Tuesday.

Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party and its coalition partner, Mr Joshua Nkomo's Patriotic Front, expect to complete a list of portfolios over the weekend to which names will subsequently be allocated. The two party leaders met again today to discuss details.

Mr Mugabe has still not had a second meeting with Mr Ian Smith, the leader of the white Rhodesian Front, which has 20 seats in the new Parliament, since their last one on Monday, but a new encounter is in the offing. The coalition is committed to including at least one white in the Cabinet, if only to reassure the white population, but not that he should be a member of the Rhodesian Front.

The date for the granting of independence is to be announced more or less simultaneously with the Cabinet list, the completion of which will make it possible to work out a timetable for the constitutional steps to independence.

An encouraging sign of the general national desire for peace came today with the announcement by a British spokesman that yesterday for the first time

Zimbabwe Cabinet to be ready by Tuesday

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Syrians move almost half of Beirut force to border valley

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 7

The Syrian Army withdrew its tanks and heavy armour from the outskirts of the Christian sector of east Beirut this morning and moved them to the main roads east of the city.

For the first time since the civil war ended in November 1976, Lebanese Army tanks were seen deployed within the city.

A Syrian withdrawal had been expected for more than a month. Early in February, President Assad of Syria said that he no longer wanted his troops playing the role of policemen in Beirut. Although that was generally regarded as an attempt to concentrate the Lebanese Government's efforts on speed up national "reconciliation" in Lebanon, there was little doubt that the Syrians would eventually pull out.

Today's partial withdrawal was followed with memories of the last days of the civil war. Then, hundreds of Syrian tanks streamed down the mountain road into Beirut to quench the last battles in the civil conflict that had taken more than 37,000 lives. Lebanese soldiers killed the young Syrian troops with rice and rosewater, a traditional sign of greeting and happiness.

Those civilians watched in awe from their balconies as dozens of Syrian tanks and heavy armour—including the "Stalin Organ" rocket launchers that have been used against Christians—were hoisted in the last two years—made their way out of the city and back up that long mountain road.

This time, it was the newly constituted Lebanese Army, in American-made uniforms, that carried the rosewater and rice.

Predictably, it was only the Christian sector from which the Syrians departed. They have

maintained control of the Muslim western quarter of Beirut and tonight, Syrian troops combat dress and steel helmets were seen on the streets. On the Lebanese state station on the Rue Billard, the Syrians have erected arches of palms bearing the stern portraits of President Assad.

In theory, the Syrian withdrawal from the east is a sign of goodwill towards Christians who have resented their presence with increasing bitterness for three and a half years. In fact, Syrian tanks on the Lebanese state station on the Rue Billard, the Syrians have erected arches of palms bearing the stern portraits of President Assad.

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Remagen 'miracle' remembered

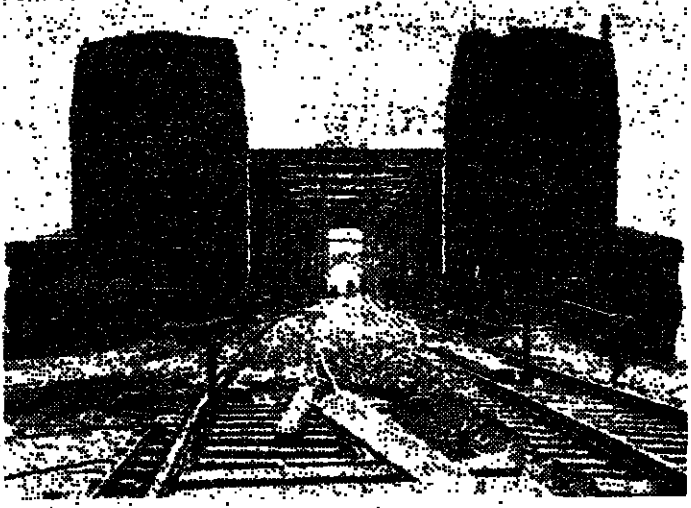
From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 7

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The Remagen bridge over the Rhine after American troops captured it 35 years ago.

central supports of the bridge—which was never rebuilt after the war—had to be dismantled because they hampered shipping. He had thousands of stones from the bridge encased in hard transparent plastic and, in a case of authenticity sold them to visitors or postal applicants throughout the world for DM40 (£10) a piece.

Huge blocks of the grim-looking black stone have also been sold to museums or as war memorials in various countries. In two years he has collected about DM70,000 to found the museum.

The museum was conceived as an effort for peace and reconciliation. Veterans' meetings have been held in Remagen

Bomb damages Soviet consulate in Berlin

From Gretel Spitzer, Berlin, March 7

A bomb exploded inside the Soviet consulate in Berlin today, causing extensive damage but no casualties. The device was placed in a toilet in the building, which is in the American-controlled sector of the city. The explosion destroyed walls and doors and smashed windows.

After the explosion, shortly after noon, an Afghan organization claimed responsibility for placing the bomb. Police are investigating a man who arrived in an orange van and entered the consulate shortly before noon with two bunches of flowers, but it was not known whether he was connected with the attack.

The US mission in Berlin expressed regrets at the incident.

Brothel plan

Rotterdam, March 7.—The

Rotterdam City Council has approved a plan to concentrate prostitution in floating brothels at three selected berths.

The plan, proposed by the Mayor and aldermen and approved last night, is intended to rid the Katendrecht area of Rotterdam of large-scale prostitution.

Nine promise maximum aid to Portugal

From Jose Scharif, Lisbon, March 7

The European Community will give as much aid as it can to Portugal while negotiations continue over the country's acceptance as a member.

This was made clear by Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Economic Community who arrived here on an official visit on Thursday.

At a dinner given in his honour by Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Prime Minister, Mr Jenkins said that negotia-

France asked to expel Angolan party leader

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 7

France has officially been asked to expel Mr Holden Roberto by the Angolan Government. Mr Roberto, the leader of the National Liberation Front (FLNA) in Angola is said to be living in Paris and is seeking political asylum in France.

Mr Luis de Almeida, the Angolan ambassador, complained at a press conference that the presence in Paris of Mr Roberto "confirmed the French authorities", and about the eventual arrival here of representatives of the other main rebel group, Unita. These constituted "a stain on the honour and Angola", he said.

They told the court that the PLO had been destroying the Palestinian cause.

Last effort for ailing Connally campaign

From David Cross, Moultrie, South Carolina, March 7

"Welcome to Moultrie—a town with a future", reads the sign on the motorway outside this small, dreary, industrial town. The mayor, persuaded his council to put it up to tell the world that the population of his town has more than quintupled to 10,000 over the past few years, and is expected to increase further as more textile plants move in.

But the message was particularly appropriate last night when Mr John Connally, the former Governor of Texas, former Secretary of the Navy and former Treasury Secretary, visited the United Methodist Church here to canvass votes for tomorrow's Presidential primary.

After three primaries in New England where his highest share of the vote was a mere 2 per cent, he has made South Carolina his last stand. He is the only candidate who has not been eliminated by the time he got to this state.

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Killer of PLO man jailed for 15 years

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, March 7

The Paris Assize court today rejected the plea that two men who killed the Palestinian Liberation Organisation representative in France were acting on orders as soldiers. They were sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

The men, Mr Husni Hatem and Mr Assad Kaved, had been described by their defence lawyers as being "confronted by history, dispossessed of their lands without being defeated, but who knew that the only way towards a national identity was that of combat even with intransigence".

In August, 1978, they burst into the office of Mr Issidun Kadak, the PLO representative, and killed him with a grenade.

They told the court that the PLO had been destroying the Palestinian cause.

Reagan when the votes are counted. The audience, however, can get votes for himself, but he can't always get votes for another man," the senator explained somewhat ruefully.

Nevertheless, no one here is sure about what will happen tomorrow. This is South Carolina's first primary and the vote will be on to Democrats and independents as well as to Republicans. The Democrats will choose their delegates to the national convention by the traditional caucus method.

Another ingredient which has confused voter intentions is the vigorous media slinging campaign between Mr Connally and Mr Bush. Mr Connally's aides have accused Mr Bush of being sympathetic to homosexuals and Mr Bush's aides have countered by claiming that Mr Connally has spent \$70,000 (£31,000) to buy votes among black voters.

Such allegations, none of which have any source, have proven, are commonplace in southern politics and may have no more than a negligible impact on voters tomorrow.

Furthermore, it is not clear whether the race which might once have gone to Senator Howard Baker, the Republican leader of the Upper House who withdrew from the Presidential campaign earlier this week, will be reallocated to Mr Connally.

Berkeley view, page 12

Muslim radicals protest at peace policy in Cairo

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, March 7

About 2,000 Islamic fundamentalists, chanting and waving flags, gathered in Egypt's most sacred mosque on Friday to denounce the state's relations with Israel. They demanded a boycott of Israeli diplomats, journalists, tourists and commodities.

Banners outside the 100-year-old al-Azhar mosque claimed: "Muhammad's arm will return to Jerusalem" and "cultural and economic invasion" of Egypt, in the wake of the normalization of diplomatic relations last week.

The return of East Jerusalem to Arab control is a controversial issue in the current negotiations. The new Israeli annexation of Jerusalem following the 1967 war, but because it is host to Islam's third most holy shrine, many Arabs want it back.

Israel, however, has promised it would remain part of an united capital.

Another obstacle to agreement is the issue of settlements in occupied territories. In an interview published today, Mr Si Murad, the new Egyptian ambassador to Israel, said "a lit of disgust in every Arab interview by the Arab language paper *Anwar*, Egyptian envoy said that from contributing to Israel security, the settlements actually harmed it. Palestinians must be given the right to choose for themselves a federation with Jordan, federation with Israel or a state of their own."

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OVERSEAS

Giscard tour of Gulf leaves wake of profit

From Charles Hagrover, Abu Dhabi, March 7

More than a thousand members of the French colony in Abu Dhabi and their cheering, flag-waving, gave President Giscard d'Estaing a boisterous welcome yesterday, as he closed his six-day visit to four of the Gulf states, which has been an unqualified diplomatic success and important to France's economy.

British influence is still strong here, but France, a latecomer to the scene, as the President pointed out in his speech to his countrymen, has succeeded in carving for itself a small but rapidly growing share in the development of the four states visited by the French President. Abu Dhabi has the closest and most promising industrial, commercial and political ties with France.

French oil companies have a sizeable stake in the exploration and development of the Abu Dhabi oilfields, especially offshore, and in the liquefaction of natural gas. Other French firms have substantial contracts in the construction of desalination plants, oil refineries, fertilizer plants and the design of the new Abu Dhabi airport.

The cultural and technical cooperation agreement signed in 1975 when Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi and president of the United Arab Emirates, visited France, gave a strong impetus to French language studies and technology.

Six agreements were signed as a result of the present talks which President Giscard d'Estaing and the four French ministers accompanying him, had with Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan.

They provided for the supervision and maintenance of oil production plants, including the creation of an offshore accident centre; the training of oil technicians and engineers in French; studies and research in the development of solar energy for the power sector; the creation of a research institute on the practical applications of solar energy; the training of medical students in French medical colleges; and French technical assistance for agricultural projects.

Abu Dhabi has given to France a guarantee of all the oil deliveries it needs. Lieutenant-Colonel Khalifa bin Zayed al-Nahyan, the heir apparent, declared today that this decision was taken out of respect for the role of France within the European Community "in favour of the Arab cause" and for its recent stand on Palestinian self-determination.

Undoubtedly, the French industrial and commercial breakthrough in the Gulf states has greatly increased the pro-Arab policy pursued by the French Government since 1967. It was given an additional fillip by the President's official support for self-determination for the Palestinians.

But there are other reasons too. The French role in the Gulf has been a great capacity for coordinating the activities of government, finance and business in export markets, and the French firms which go out to conquer new markets are dynamic, enterprising and go-ahead.



Mr Patrick Wayne (left) and Mr Michael Wayne appear at a Washington luncheon beneath pictures of their late actor father, John Wayne, who was awarded a congressional gold medal. With the brothers are Senator John Warner (centre) and his wife, Elizabeth Taylor, and Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona.

Mr Ram cleaves Janata party as nine state elections fall due

From Richard Wigg, Delhi, March 7

For the second time in eight months, India's ruling Janata party has split. Mr Jagjivan Ram, its leader at the January general election announced today that he was disassociating himself from it and would launch a new party.

Last July it was another party leader, Mr Chhara Singh, who first brought down the Desai Government by leaving and then launching the Lok Dal Party.

Mr Ram, aged 71 and twice India's Defence Minister, appealed to his former party colleagues and Janata workers in the country to follow him and participate in a founding conference of the new party in a fortnight's time. But he only claimed the support of 10 MPs today.

He denied his move would make the opposition to Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, even weaker at a time when elections are due in nine important states, arguing that it was impossible to form a united opposition.

Invoking the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, Nehru and Ambedkar, the leader of the Harijans (formerly known as Untouchables) at the time of independence, Mr Ram said it was better to have a clear party of the ways "between those who prefer to support communal and caste tendencies based on religious fanaticism and those who believe in secularism and equality".

For good measure Mr Ram, who announced his move at a crowded press conference, said it was a mistake to have joined the Janata Government in 1977, when he broke from Mrs Gandhi. Many people believe the ultimate object of all Mr Ram's recent manoeuvrings is to return to her now that she is once again in power.

As if to underline that India's leading politicians attach little or no value to party loyalties, Mrs Gandhi today appointed Mr Virendra Patel, the man who lost to her in the Chickmagalur election in November, 1978, on the Janata ticket, as India's new Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals.

He takes over a key economic ministry without having any previous central government experience, at a time when India is finding it difficult to obtain oil on world markets and import bills are eating into the country's export earnings.

A singing and sceptical response came today from Mr Chandra Shekhar, the Janata president, who "thanked" Mr Ram for quitting. No one of significance would join Mr Ram, whom he described as a "dead wood".

Mr Ram had only been trying to harm the party of recent weeks, he added, emphasizing how he had been able to co-operate with the Janata Government for almost three years while in office.

Many people here who have felt sympathy with the veteran minister have explained his recent public antics as largely caused by his inability to get used to being out of Government.

General Zia made the suggestion yesterday, to refute an allegation that Pakistan was sending armed Afghan insurgents to create trouble in Afghanistan.

General Zia had also suggested that Pakistan could be willing to offer inspection of Afghan refugee camps by impartial observers to ascertain that they were not bases for military training and activity.

Leaders at today's meeting passed a resolution censuring the Pakistani regime's external and internal policies and demanding that instead of adopting diversionary methods, the martial law regime should take steps to restore representative government.

These leaders, most of whom had welcomed imposition of martial law two and a half years ago and had associated with General Zia's Cabinet before the execution of Mr Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, said Pakistan was passing through its most critical phase.

The leaders alleged that Pakistan's current foreign policy had failed to enlist the support of friendly nations in meeting the Soviet threat in Afghanistan.

Sperm bank criticized by expert

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, March 7

The controversial concept of setting up a sperm bank containing semen from Nobel prizewinners only has come under new attack by Dr Stanley Friedman, director of the largest private infertility clinic in the United States.

"I wouldn't want to sit in judgment to decide what women get what kind of sperm," Dr Friedman, head of the Tyler Medical Clinic of Los Angeles, said, referring to the "Hermon J. Muller Repository for Germinal Choice", established by Mr Robert K. Graham, a businessman. It is named after the Nobel scientist.

Dr Friedman, who lectures on obstetrics and gynecology at the University of California, Los Angeles, has run his bank since 1973. The donors are from all walks of life though there is a preponderance of university students.

"There's going to have to be some supervision," he said. Right now, unfortunately, any jolter can do what Graham did. It's a totally unsupervised situation."

Mr Graham, who pioneered hard plastic lenses for eye glasses, has said his bank contains semen from three Nobel prizewinners, including Dr William B. Shockley, of Stanford University, winner of the physics prize in 1956. Dr Shockley says he favours the elitist bank idea. Three women have already received sperm from the bank, according to Mr Graham, although it is not yet known whether they have become pregnant.

Dr Friedman said the American Fertility Society's committee in the process of setting up guidelines for sperm banks. There were potential problems with having untrained people running sperm banks, he added.

When the story broke last week it started an international controversy with critics suggesting the "elitist" bank was comparable to Hitler's "master race" concept.

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Share premium account 'inevitable'

From Ivor Davis, London, March 7

Shearer (Inspector of Taxes) v Bercain (Inspector of Taxes) is the name of the case which the House of Lords is now considering in the House of Lords.

Section 56 of the Companies Act, 1948, is mandatory and requires the excess of value of assets (which is the share premium) to be carried to a share premium account in the books of a company acquiring shares.

His Lordship, in a reserved judgment, dismissed a Crown appeal from a decision of special commissioners discharging an assessment made on the taxpayer company, Bercain Ltd, under section 289(1) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act, 1970.

Mr Leonard Bromley, QC, and Mr Peter Gibson, QC, for the Crown, argued that the share premium account was a separate fund, distinct from the company's assets, and that it was not subject to the provisions of section 289(1).

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When a motorist 'drives recklessly'

Regina v Murphy (William)

Before Lord Justice Eveleigh, Mr Justice Bristow and Mr Justice McNeill

The Court of Appeal laid down the test for determining whether a motorist is guilty of driving a motor vehicle on a road dangerously, within sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Act, 1972, as substituted by section 50 of the Criminal Law Act, 1977.

The court said that it did not intend to enter the area of subjective or objective test. That was a justifiable reservation. It was arguable that to require knowledge that the risk was involved could imply that there should be a contemplation of the consequences of the driving. When one speaks of something which a person knew, was one referring to knowledge which was stored in the brain and available if called on, or to knowledge which was actually present in the mind at the time?

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Pakistanis rejected aid to protect nuclear programme

By Caroline Moorehead

Pakistan turned down the American offer of a \$400m (£180m) in military and economic aid in order to protect its nuclear development programme, Mr Asghar Shahi, Pakistan's foreign affairs adviser, has disclosed.

Speaking in Islamabad earlier this week, Mr Shahi said that the American offer was "substantially modified". It would detract from, rather than enhance, the country's security.

Mr Shahi said that the acceptance of the package could affect the pursuit of our nuclear research and development programme.

Mr Shahi's words come not long after a high-level military source in Islamabad had it been known that Pakistan was hoping to develop a thermonuclear (H-bomb) device sometime this spring, despite the persistent efforts of America and other nuclear powers to prevent more countries from acquiring the weapon.

This week's statement can only add to international speculation at the prospect that Pakistan may indeed be joining the "nuclear club". It will also lend weight to the 40 or so questions that Mr Tam Dayrell, Labour MP for West Lothian, has been hammering in the House of Commons day after day for the last couple of months on the subject of Pakistan's security breaches and nuclear proliferation.

Mr Dayrell has described the work of Dr Abdul Qadir Khan as a prelude to a "possible world holocaust".

Dr Khan, a Pakistani, worked as a metallurgist in 1972 with the Joint Centrifuge Project at Highley in the Netherlands, a high-speed uranium enrichment plant set up jointly by Britain, West Germany and Holland for enriching uranium.

During his three years there Dr Khan was briefly seconded to the centrifuge project as a translator where, by some unexplained breach of security, he had access to the most sensitive material.

In 1975 Dr Khan returned to Pakistan, bringing with him, so the story goes, a blueprint of the enrichment plant in other words, the design, technology and list of parts necessary to create an advanced pilot centrifuge in Pakistan.

Disciplinary sentences

Laund General Medical Council

Before Lord Salmon, Lord Russell of Killowen and Lord Goff of Chichester

(Opinions delivered March 4)

Where a professional man has committed a criminal offence which is a serious breach of professional conduct, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council will not interfere with a decision by the appropriate disciplinary body as to the proper disciplinary sentence to be imposed. The Judicial Committee said when giving reasons for their dismissal on January 17 of an appeal by Dr Ashok Desai, a general practitioner, against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council to suspend his registration for 12 months.

Dr Desai, in person; Mr Timothy Straker for the General Medical Council.

LORD SALMON said that in 1971 Dr Desai had been charged with a criminal offence of obtaining money by deception and was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment on six months' probation.

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charge concurrently suspended for two years, fined £500 and ordered to pay £300 compensation.

In 1978 Dr Desai was charged with and pleaded guilty to two offences of obtaining money from the National Health Service by deception. He asked for six months' imprisonment for each offence to be taken into consideration. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for each offence, to be served concurrently, and to pay £300 compensation. On appeal the prison sentences were suspended. On July 2, 1979, the Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council directed the registrar to suspend Dr Desai's registration. Dr Desai appealed.

Their Lordships emphasized that they would not interfere with the decisions of professional disciplinary bodies as to the proper disciplinary sentence to be imposed in cases of professional misconduct. That principle applied equally when the matters complained of also constituted criminal offences which had been punished under the criminal law. It was as well as being criminal offences also constituted professional misconduct. The appropriate disciplinary body to deal with them on that aspect. That was a general principle which should not be departed from.

Solicitors: Waterhouse & Co.

Liberty to apply

Judges and registrars in the Family Division have found that there has been misunderstanding among practitioners about the meaning of "liberty to apply".

The senior registrar states in a Practice Direction. In one sense there is always liberty to apply since the court can always be applied to by using the proper procedure, but it is emphasized that in the context of the words "liberty to apply" it does not give a right to apply to the court without using the procedures comprised in rule 122 of the Matrimonial Causes Rules, 1977, and in the Non-Contentious Probate Rules.

Under a summons for directions there is always liberty to apply for further directions without taking out another summons. The court may give liberty to apply as to terms of compromise or minor terms where property is settled, but in general application should not be made to the court to apply without using the procedures laid down by the rules.

In *Inland Revenue Commissioners v Mulliken and Others* (March 7) the chairman of the Football Association Council is Professor Sir Harold Thompson and the vice-chairman is Mr Arthur Derek McMullen.

Saturday Review

Orson Welles

by Penelope Houston

Scott Fitzgerald once wrote that there are no second acts in American lives. It was a pronouncement—curiously beside the point of Fitzgerald's own life (what, after all, is *Tender Is the Night* but the novel of an almost unendurable second act?). But it has always seemed almost excessively appropriate to the film-making career of George Orson Welles.

The Wellesian first act remains unchanged: the most dazzling, explosive and sheerly overpowering beginning in cinema history, a heavy-weight arrival comparable in bravura and wallop to Muhammad Ali's first victory over Sonny Liston. The Wellesian third act is still in progress: quieter, deeper, more slow-moving and subdued, coloured with the regrets and dispassionate ruminations of advancing years. But the second act is the underdeveloped territory, the middle ground between the prodigious patriarch which should perhaps have yielded the richest harvest.

Welles has described himself as "frustrated": and in the light of the perpetual motion of his creative life, this might sound like a not uncharacteristic exaggeration. But to write about Welles is to encounter frustration: the critic finds himself speculatively circling that unfilled gap at the centre.

Welles' *The Immortal Story* (1968), has been likened to such films as Dreyer's *Gertrud*, Ford's *Seven Women*, Renoir's *Le Caporal Epingle*; works whose qualities—the serenity and certainties, but also the fitful discontents—are reflections of their makers' age. The comparison has seemed apt; yet the shock is to realize that there should be no comparison, that Welles in his fifties had somehow caught up with the masters of a previous generation, and that we are ranking among the sages a film-maker actually of an age with such decidedly unpaternal figures as Losey or Antonioni. But Welles' *Mr. Clay in the Immortal Story*, and his almost grandfatherly *Falstaff in Chimes at Midnight* (1966), are characters immorally experienced, old as time. There is something disconcerting about an artist's assumption of patriarchal trappings before his years properly entitle him to them; and it is part of the massive Wellesian paradox that if his great, late films of the 1960s suggest an artist rushing to embrace the certainties of age, his films of the 1940s glitter spectacularly with the quick, other certainty of his youth. The uncertain years come in between.

Welles, of course, was by no means a youth when in 1941 he made *Citizen Kane*. A 25-year-old film-maker (he was born in 1915) would have seemed young in 1920, or again in 1970, and it was only in its own middle years that Hollywood seemed to become peculiarly the province of the middle-aged. Having begun his career younger than anyone else playing Shakespearean tragic roles in the nursery, acting and producing professionally while still in his teens, moving on in his very early twenties to the conquest of radio, Welles arrived in Hollywood as the Alexander of show-business, with only one world still left to conquer.

The *War of the Worlds* broadcast (1938), which sent New Yorkers running to the hills from the imagined Martian invasion, had been the crowning sensation. Ironically, *War of the Worlds* was in effect a fluke, and in its substance apparently by no means the most striking of his radio productions; but it set the Welles legend in a particular, inescapable atmosphere of shock and suspense. He was believed to be capable of anything; and a kind of superstitious fear of the artist as magician has perhaps haunted him ever since.

To establish himself as an American film-maker in the context of the 40s, Welles had to overcome this damaging reputation for unruly genius. His failure provides part, if by no means all, of the explanation for the missing second act in the Wellesian drama. But it's seldom asked what could conceivably have happened if Welles, in the 40s, had succeeded.

In the excessively conformist Hollywood of the 50s, with its docile acquiescence in the blacklist, its querulous alarms about television's inroads into its audience and its general air of strained respectability, there could in any case hardly have been room for Welles. *Citizen Kane* was made just in time; if Welles had delayed his trip to Hollywood by as much as three or four years, it might never have been made at all.

By the nature of things, large elements of derring-do and sheer bravado must have entered into the making of Welles' first feature. And if so many of the normal artistic laws had not seemingly been suspended on behalf of *Citizen Kane*, this should now be working powerfully against the

film. Nothing wears out quicker than the determination of yesterday to *épater les bourgeois*. But although the stylistic innovations of *Citizen Kane*—the overlapping dialogue, Gregg Toland's deep-focus camerawork, the heavy chiaroscuro and looming distortions, those round-the-corner, creak-of-the-neck angles that so exasperated conventional critics, the oblique and devious yet extraordinarily rapid narrative—have long since passed into cliché, one always re-encounters them in the film itself with the same astounding (and by this time astounded) exhilaration. Built mysteriously into the fabric of *Citizen Kane* is the excitement of its making.

The story the film tells ought to be a melancholy one: the betrayal of hope and promise and love and brilliance, the disillusionment of cold, creeping age and of power misused, Charles Foster Kane's progress from the buccannery adventure of running a newspaper to the petrified gloom of the marble halls of Xanadu.

But of course *Citizen Kane* never begins to feel like a depressing film: it is too dispassionate about its characters, too alert in its curiosity, too romantically buoyed up on its sense of possibility.

The strongest comparison, it has always seemed to me, is with *The Great Gatsby*. Scott Fitzgerald's novel from the other side of the depressed thirties. About *Gatsby*, as about Kane, hangs the fascination of the insoluble mystery. In both cases the works are powered by a strong romantic appetite, an American baroque style, a feeling not so much for the shattered reality as for the promise of a receding dream.

For Kane and *Gatsby*, dreamers of the American dream, are the creations of artists who must have shared in the dream on their own account—whose experiences had entitled them to believe that they were touched by a kind of magic, and who could afford a certain luxuriant fatalism on behalf of their characters.

"I owe it to my ignorance. If his word seems inadequate to you, replace it with innocence," Welles himself has said of *Citizen Kane*. And François Truffaut wrote of *The Magnificent Ambersons* (1942) that it was "made in violent contrast to *Citizen Kane*, almost as if by another film-maker who despised the first and wanted to give him a lesson in modesty." *The Magnificent Ambersons* is actually neither so different from *Citizen Kane* nor so modest; but it develops a side of Welles which was to remain in some extent dormant in his films until he came a quarter of a century later, to *Chimes at Midnight*.

He described the latter film as "a lament for Merrie England"; and Welles is as aware as anyone that "Merrie England" has no time or place, existed in no exact historical context. In the same way, *The Magnificent Ambersons* is a lament for a dying dream, something more intangible, and therefore perhaps more potent, than the betrayal of bright hope in *Citizen Kane*.

The Magnificent Ambersons is the romantic high water mark of Welles' career, using the illusionist's art (which in *Touch of Evil*, for instance, he was to turn to the conjuring up of nightmare) to suggest a lost Eden of happiness and innocence and splendour. The ball sequence, "the last of the great long-remembered dances", is a scene of dazzling exhilaration but the lights are going out in the Amberson mansion, and the exuberance and wilfulness of the occasion are overtaken by that characteristic Wellesian regret for lost things.

The snow sequence (that same snow young Charlie Kane had been dragged away from) similarly owes its charm and vitality to its evanescence. Remove the indications of destiny, and the Ambersons would be merely a snobbish little clan clinging to empty aristocratic illusions.

Welles' achievement is in lending them his own romanticism, at the same time keeping a due, dispassionate distance; protecting Agnes Moorehead's loving, spiteful, pitiful Aunt Fanny while seeing her wholly for what she is: bridging the gap, one might say, between the homely, silly, small-town word "compearance" and the despairing, magnificent of the Ambersons' fortunes.

His career has been discussed in persistent detail, by himself and by others; yet it's still difficult to build up an objective picture of what really went on in the years after *Citizen Kane*, of how far Welles had become, in distance, a highly symbolic counter (the King as pawn) in the battles of the RKO boardroom.

RKO was soon to be in the throes of one of those perennial Hollywood battles between derring-do and safety: first George Schaefer, who had brought Welles to Hollywood

with a contract allowing him unprecedented control over his pictures, was under heavy pressure. Eventually Charles Koerner took over at the studio, and the victory for commerce was proclaimed in no uncertain terms: "Showmanship instead of genius: a new deal at RKO." (One is reminded of the endearing remark attributed to Rita Hayworth at the time of her divorce from Welles: "I just can't take that man's genius.") Meanwhile, Welles himself had embarked on the extraordinary, doomed Latin American venture, *It's All True* (1942), a project which could be regarded as his *Que Viva Mexico!* and which, like the Eisenstein film, harboured any number of built-in possibilities for disaster.

This multi-part, mainly documentary film was conceived as a contribution to the United States "Good Neighbour" policy and was precisely the sort of chancy commitment that studios entered into in haste, on a wave of patriotic goodwill, and repented of more commercially and at leisure. Lines of communication were over-extended; wartime problems over transport and equipment were inevitable; above all, an exceptionally difficult undertaking was embarked on at speed, to get the film unit down to Rio in February, 1942, in time for the Carnival which was to be one of the picture's themes. Richard Wilson, Welles' associate, has written that no script was possible until Welles had actually seen the Carnival.

It's All True collapsed under a combination of circumstances originating less in Brazil than in the boardrooms in America. Welles was far from the scene of action when RKO, discontented at preview reactions to *The Magnificent Ambersons* (and no doubt using the picture as a tool in the company wars), re-edited the film, shortened it and reshot the ending along makeshift lines never countenanced by the director. In Rio, to quote Richard Wilson, "bills somehow weren't being paid for *It's All True*", and Welles had to fight for permission to keep shooting. And in July, 1942, back in Hollywood, the Mercury production unit was ordered out of its offices—to make way, with appropriately preposterous Hollywood irony, for a Tarzan picture. Welles himself returned to America a month or so later, to find that *It's All True* was all over and that another "lost" film had been added to screen history. Much of the footage survives.

Richard Wilson has pointed out the irony that "Welles was approached to make a non-commercial picture, then was bitterly approached for making a non-commercial picture". And the whole melancholy episode, in so many ways a cautionary tale of movie-making attitudes, seems also crucially central to Welles' career. He had arrived in Hollywood on his terms, given a contract of dazzling promises; and he had been beaten on their terms. The contract had proved to be a licence allowing him one thing: he had been able to make what is still arguably the most electrifying film in Hollywood's history; but he had been unable to save his more graceful, elegant second picture; and his third film had been shot to pieces under him. He could now only placate Hollywood's gods by making a thoroughly commercial picture, and even if it had been "with his temperament to do so (no Welles film has been a real commercial hit), they were now unlikely to give him the means. By a further ironic twist, Welles was to be increasingly in demand as an actor of outside temperament: a vice ceased to be wanted by Hollywood as a director: behind a camera, he simply frightened them.

Even now, an American director out of favour with Hollywood has few alternative sources of backing; in the 40s, it really was Hollywood or nothing. Welles tried to mend some fences with *The Stranger*, and merely demonstrated that he lacked the artisan skills to lend plausibility to mediocrity. *The Lady from Shanghai*, a much better and essentially more enjoyable picture, was better in practically unhelpful ways. Like John Huston's later *Beat the Devil* it came somewhat before its time, a flying, masterfully eccentric characterization of a virtually incomprehensible cork-screw plot, at a time when audiences still expected to know what was going on on the screen.

But the ultimate irony was still held in reserve. Welles' last Hollywood film of the 40s—and the last film he was to make in America for almost a decade—was the bizarre quickie *Macbeth* (1948), shot in a brusque three weeks for Republic, a horse opera comedy capable of rising to occasional flights of resolute fantasy.

In the circumstances, it was not surprising that the film had a certain wild-eyed quality—rugged, slaty, vaguely dripping with suggestions that the actors had just downed tools at the coal-face, eye-rolling performances from a cast generally much overburdened by their roles, a lowering, dishevelled storminess of mood.

Macbeth was a demonstration of will-power in action: it took three weeks to make, and his next Shakespeare film *Othello* (1952), took three years. In his book *Put Money in Thy Purse*, Welles's lingo, the late Michael MacLennan, chronicled the hazards and strains and derangements of a production protracted and interrupted beyond any normal endurance. Again, circumstances determined form: this was obviously not the *Othello* Welles would have made in more rational conditions, and if *Macbeth* was a rough sketch, *Othello* was a drawn-out dream.

But Welles in the 50s seemed like other film makers who had lost America without discovering Europe. The romance of *Citizen Kane* and *The Magnificent Ambersons* was partly, and powerfully, with the American past; but off from that base, Welles seemed marooned and isolated.

His problems in making any sort of film, anywhere, for anyone, were such that he was also in danger of becoming the prisoner of his own legend, treated like some baroque monument which has gone out of style, worth three stars in the guidebook, demanding a detour, but no longer essentially relevant. His mid-50s film *Mr. Arkadin* in itself seemed an uncomfortably symbolic venture. The attractive plot idea, of a mysterious, omnipotent mogul who hires a seedy adventurer to inquire into his own dark past, with a view to obliterating its last dangerous traces, assembled the apparatus of the queer and the labyrinth, only to turn the parade of witnesses into a riddling charade. Mr. Arkadin himself is a bloated power fantasy, master of disguise, mystery man for the sake of mystery, a creation out of display by disillusionment.

The unexpected thing, after this flaccid rhetorical exercise, is that Welles could possibly extract so much from the run of the mill thriller he turned into *Touch of Evil* (1958). Mr. Arkadin has all the machinery; *Touch of Evil* has character, and Kane, Falstaff

and Quinlan, in that order, perhaps make up the great triptych of Wellesian roles. The gross, greedy-eyed Quinlan, a huge walking bulk of corruption, is a kind of Falstaff run to seed—devious, wilful and larger not merely than life but than anyone else in the picture. Around him in this splenic film, Welles assembled the vicious, grotesque, ornately malevolent inhabitants of the murderous little town which Quinlan rules by authority of his police badge.

Touch of Evil restored Welles briefly to conditions of Hollywood professionalism, but was itself made almost by accident. Charlton Heston, who plays upright investigator who brings about Quinlan's comeuppance, had been assigned to star, and is said to have accepted in the belief that Welles, who had in fact only been engaged as an actor, was to direct. Universal let him do so. And the fact that Welles accepted the none too promising assignment with such alacrity might be taken as an indication of his vast frustration. The film was not a commercial success, and to this day Welles has still not completed another picture in America.

Welles' three films of the Sixties in a sense contain the range of his post-*Citizen Kane* attitudes. All three could be said to be concerned with the workings of fate, justice and betrayal.

The *Trial* follows *Touch of Evil* logically as an expression of Wellesian misanthropy and spleen. It ends with Joseph K., brought finally to his execution, flinging away his murderers' dynamite and with excessive symbolism setting off the all-destructive mushroom cloud. *Chimes at Midnight* is autumnal and philosophic, and at the same time the closest film in the Wellesian canon to *The Magnificent Ambersons*; and in *The Immortal Story* Welles is reverting to an even older role of story-teller—though, significantly, where Isak Dinesen's novella emphasizes the power of the story as an entity, the Wellesian version lays its stress on the withered authority of Mr. Clay, the old Macon merchant who out of his disbelief in fiction decides to turn legend into fact.

Chimes at Midnight is founded on two great Wellesian themes: the nature and price of power, and the betrayal of possibility and friendship. But if these express their emotional force, their philosophical con-

tent has been blended with Welles' severe, almost ascetic morality.

Unlike Stanley Kubrick, who has stylized, sometimes looked like Welles' closest heir, and who has achieved that total control over massive film-making resources which Welles has been denied since *Citizen Kane*, Welles has never seemed a film-maker for intellectual concepts or for ideas pushed to their limits in action. *Citizen Kane* probably covers a wider range of ideas than any other Welles picture, which could be taken as a clue to Herman Mankiewicz's contribution as co-scriptwriter, and even there the vitality is in allusiveness and expression rather than in any particular depth of thought.

Otherwise, Welles has never apparently felt the need for a strong basis in intellectual logic. He has looked, rather, for characters who would reflect his philosophy—or perhaps more accurately he has required of his plots that they should express a philosophy rooted in character.

"Character", of course, must mean the character of—Orson Welles himself—as it operates both behind and in front of the camera. At times he has deprecated the necessity to keep acting in his own films, arguing that circumstances rather than choice has forced it on him. Arguably, he is a self-conscious actor, fated or privileged to be instantly recognizable and constantly seeming to look for a kind of escape into make-up.

Intellectually, he has claimed to distrust most of the characters he has played: "I'm against the Faustian outlook, because I believe it is impossible for a man to be great unless he acknowledges something greater than himself. It can be the Law, it can be God, it can be Art, or any other idea, but it must be greater than man. I've played a whole line of egotists, and I detest egotism, the egotism of the Renaissance, the egotism of Faust, all of them. . . . If I had to choose, I'd always choose respect rather than egoism, responsibility rather than adventure. And that goes against my personality, which is that of the egotistical adventurer. I'm just cut out to follow in the footsteps of the Byronic adventurer, though I detest that kind of person in everything he does!"

Morally, in true Byronic line, he has adopted the principle that "I not only put for-

ward the best possible arguments for my enemies being as they are, but I put into their mouths the best possible justifications I can find for their point of view". It is an attitude founded in chivalry—and in the arrogance of chivalry.

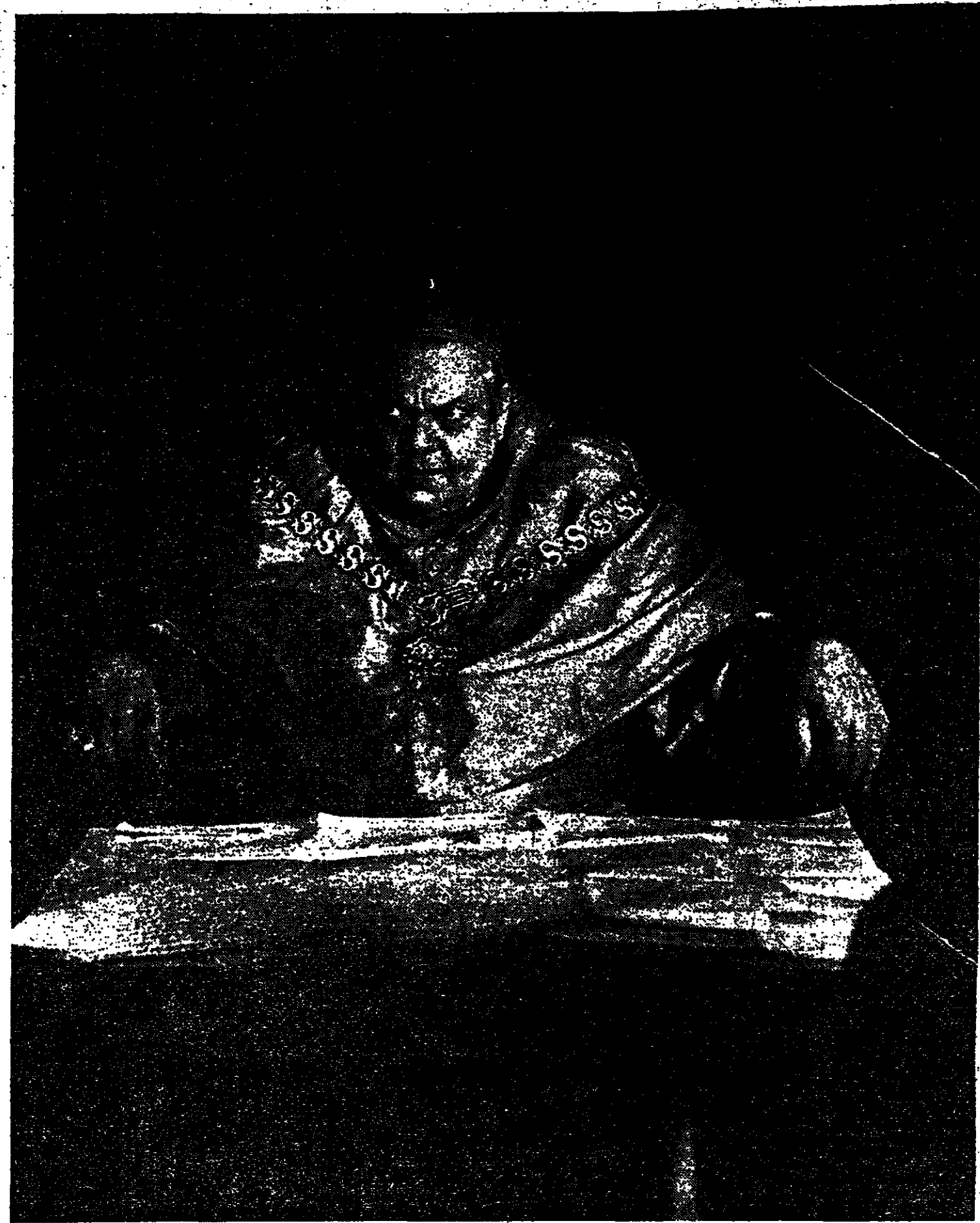
Welles has also said, with total justification, that he is among those actors who must play the king. It is not merely in physique but in temperament that he towers over any landscape he occupies—his only escape route being into conscious buffoonery, the bear allowing himself to play teddy bear. Before the cinema, he could have been one of the great actor-managers, remoulding the classical repertoire to his own scale; and even in the cinema, he has made his films facets of a continuing Wellesian drama.

The heightened tranquility, proclaimed the man: the area of the screen is an extension of his personality. And it is a personality which has been isolated in the cinema not merely geographically (since the early days, Welles has been effectively homeless as a film-maker) but temperamentally.

His characteristic theme is that of a figure larger than the usual run of men, in the act of affronting his destiny. Themes which have preoccupied his contemporaries—alienation, the search for identity, non-communication—have, sharply passed him by. The king does not descend to the psychiatrist's couch or the Freudian suburbs. "I'm a man of the Middle Ages," he has said, "with certain implications due to the barbarity of America." Possibly these are all other ways of saying that he is a great romantic.

Bernard Herrmann described *Citizen Kane* as "a kind of dream autobiography" of Orson Welles. Hollywood sent him into exile, expelled him from Xanadu. And it is perhaps because so much of his own work has been concerned with possibility and the receding dream that his film career unrealistically suggests some great unfinished monument. It has been Welles' great gift, and perhaps his curse, to be at once one of the most influential film-makers of the century, and the cinema's great anachronism.

From Penelope Houston's essay on Orson Welles in a critical dictionary of the Cinema, edited by Richard Roud and published last week by Secker & Warburg at £25.



Eva Arnold-magnum

JP 11/10/150

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 7.30 am. 7.35 Ltrfy. Ltrfy. Ltrfy.
 7

[illegible]

TELEVISION

Singer 7.00 Sing Something
3.00 With Radio 2.
Chatter 7.02 Treb
Chance. 7.30 Top Best. 8.30 Sud
der Half-hour. 9.00 Your 100
Best Songs. Windy 9.30 Pro
blems. 10.30 Top of the Bill. 11.00
Bob Kibbey. 2.02 am-5.00 You are
the Night and the Music.

Radio 1

6.00 am As Radio 2. 8.00 Ton
Blackburn. 10.00 Noel Edmond
1.00 pm Jimmy Sayer. 3.00 Sunday
Request Show. 5.00 Top 40. 7.00
Sue Scott. 9.00 Alex Kero. 10.00
10.02 Sounds of Jazz. 12.00-2.00
am As Radio 2.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2 : 6.00 am
With Radio 2. 5.00 pm With Radio
1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received
Western Europe on medium wave
services:

7.00 am Newcastle. 7.00 pm New
7.00 pm Newcastle. Britain 7.45 World
Review. 8.15 The Programme. 9.00
News. 9.15 News. 9.30 World
Review. 9.15 People and Politics. 9.30
News. 10.00 World Review. 10.15
10.15 Classical Record Review. 10.15
10.15 World Review. 11.00 World
11.00 News about Britain. 11.15 Let's
talk. 11.30 am-1.00 pm As Radio 2.

3.15	Concert Hall.	4.00	World	N	W
3.50	Commemory.	2.00	World	N	W
3.00	Financial Review.	8.00	World	N	W
3.00	News, 8.00	Commemory.	8.15	Latin	W
box.	8.15	Saudi Jones	8.15	News	W
10.00	World News.	10.00	Science	W	W
Action.	10.40	Reflections.	10.40	W	W
Sportsman.	11.00	World News	11.00	W	W
Country.	11.10	World News	11.10	W	W
America	11.30	Music News	11.30	W	W
World	12.00	am	12.00	W	W
Britain	12.15	Radio News	12.15	W	W
Religious	Service.	1.00	Concert	W	W
1.45	Short Story.	2.00	World	W	W
2.00	Fresh	2.00	World	W	W
2.15	News	2.15	World	W	W
Notebook.	2.30	Root Programme.	2.30	W	W
World News.	3.00	News about	3.00	W	W
3.15	1980	3.15	World	W	W
Dingo Fever.	4.00	Newsdesk.	4.30	W	W
with a Disc.	5.45	Intermark.			

ATV
As London except: Starts 9.30
Numbers at work: 11.30 Unhappy
Challenges: 1.00 Jam Churn 1.55 Silly
Goose 2.53 Woman of Straw 3.00 Lovers
Goose 3.53 Something Different 11.
Smoker.

Granada
As London except: Starts 9.30
Numbers at work: 11.30 Unhappy
Challenges: 1.00 Jam Churn 1.55 Silly
Goose 2.53 Woman of Straw 3.00 Lovers
Goose 3.53 Something Different 11.
Smoker.

Channel
As London except: Starts 9.28 11.
Weather: 2.30 Beyond the Tamar, 3.
Film: Shell Game 6.37 Channel News
11.15 Sideswipe 12.10 Am Evidence
Closedown.

Tyne Tees
As London except: Starts 9.00
Numbers at work: 9.30 Play Guitar
1.30 A Better Road 1.00 Jam Churn
2.53 Woman of Straw 3.00 Lovers
Goose 3.53 Something Different 11.
11.15 Lovers' Kingdom 12.15
Epilogue.

Westward
As London except: Starts 9.20
Gethine Doc 11.00 Divorce and the
11.30 A Better Road 1.00 Jam Churn
2.53 Woman of Straw 3.00 Lovers
Goose 3.53 Something Different 11.
11.15 Lovers' Kingdom 12.15
Epilogue.

Meet the nouveau riche

last summer Sotheby's at Belgrave realized the second highest price ever for a piece of British furniture with a writing cabinet designed by C. R. Mackintosh which fetched £50,000. It is perhaps a further indication of the seriousness of the Art Nouveau and Art Deco market that dealers are moving into the vicinity of Sotheby's, The Baltic and Astley's. One of these is Sotheby's Belgrave, which is in Motcomb Street, and is fast becoming a centre for the very best in nineteenth and twentieth century decorative arts. Martin's Furniture, which there three years, Gallery 25 one year and the Christopher Wood Gallery moved to Motcomb Street last autumn. Two months ago the firm opened Dan Klein Ltd. and Chiu.

Christ-started in Camden Passage in Islington in 1967 and will soon open at 3 Halkin Arcade. He has always been interested in furniture, and is idiosyncratic taste, choosing items which he admires for their quality or unexpected wit. He considers that the furniture is especially interesting, because it is still living the effects of its today in the design of our homes, furniture and crockery.

You will seldom see a range of furniture by one designer or firm; one movement; each individual piece is there because he likes it and he is confident enough of his charms to put a high price on it. For example, a chair by a designer which he displays his taste is important, especially in terms of the scale and size of the objects which can be shown to an advantage, the new shop is to be like a machine in the large room in terms. Prices will range from £50-£5,000 and people who are unfamiliar with the period can be sure of the chance to see a survey of the more interesting furniture and decorative movements which took place.

Dan Klein and Andy Tilbrook

one year and the Christopher Wood Gallery moved to Montcomb Street last autumn. Two new shops have opened—Dan Klein Ltd. and Chas. Christ—started in Camden Passage in Islington in 1967 and will soon open at 3 Halkin Arcade. He has always been known for pursuing his own taste in synchronizing the items which he admires for their quality or unexpected wit. He considers that the period 1880-1930 is especially exciting because we are still living the effects of it today in the design of our homes, furniture and crockery.

You will seldom see a range of items by one designer or from one movement; each individual piece is there because he likes it and he is confident enough to put a high price on it. For this reason the environment in which he displays his taste is important, especially in terms of the scale and size of the objects. The most striking advantage the new shop is to be "like a machine" and is to be largely covered in metal. Prices will range from £50-25,000 and people who are unfamiliar with the period can be sure of the chance to see a wide range of interesting examples of the various movements which took place.

Dan Klein and Andy Tilbrook,

Chess

The match between Petrošian and Kornešenko in the quarter-final of the Candidates series for the World Championship which was due to start today here at Velden am Wörthersee in the province of Kärnten in that tip of Austria nearest to Yugoslavia has been put forward to the Olympic Games. The opening ceremony together with the drawing of lots for colour in the first game was due to take place on March 6; but in fact this took place on March 5.

The idea was to allow full time to the players, the arbiter and the organization to discuss the various conscious and unconscious regulations governing the match. I am writing these lines beforehand and therefore can express the hope that these discussions will not be lengthy nor ill-tempered since it so happens that I have been apprehensive of this match and am looking forward to the event with feelings that are a blend of excited interest and nervous apprehension.

Why the apprehension? You might ask, having regard to the fact that I have controlled so many matches of this kind before. After all, this is not a World Championship match but merely a quarter-final encounter on a way to qualify for such a match. That it is a needle match is undoubtedly true. Neither player welcomed it and both would have preferred any other opponent.

But it is not merely a question of playing smoothly. The two are at daggers drawn for quite another reason. It is what the organizers rather portentously refer to in their introductory brochure about the match as "Die schachideologische und taktische Auseinandersetzung zwischen den beiden Schachgiganten".

However dissimilar their chess ideology may be, it is as

nothing contrasted to their political differences. On the other hand in Viktor Korchinai, we have a Russian grandmaster who cares deeply about his independence of mind and spirit and on the other there is Tigran Petrosian, a Soviet grandmaster, like me, who the Soviet grandmasters, would say with Mercurio "a plague o' both your houses !"

It is important to realize that Petrosian is a Soviet and not a Russian grandmaster. This incorrect usage of Russian for Soviet is misleading and particularly inappropriate in Petrosian's case, because he is Armenian.

These nationalities that were absorbed into the Soviet empire tend to feel especially aggrieved when qualified as Russian by ignorant Western reporters or by the not so ignorant but even more objectionable Russian press. I will remember how the late Paul Keres, a Hungarian, lost a game against Sajtar when he was playing on top board for the Soviet team at the 1952 Helsinki Olympiad. The Soviet team captain, Alexander Kotov, told me it was a game played in the Russian style, and he said, and upon my reminding this to Paul he, usually the mildest and sweetest-tempered of men, said fiercely, "No, it was a true Estonian grandmaster game."

Oddly enough, the circumstance that Petrosian is apathetic towards any kind of Soviet politics was taken into account, strongly opposed to Korchinai's behaviour in reacting so ferociously against the dictates of the Soviet establishment. Or, come to think of it, this is not so odd since Petrosian must feel he has to put off warmenting himself in this respect in order to demonstrate his loyalty to the Soviet governing bodies.

Despite all the politics this should be a good match as far as chess is concerned. Both

players are genuine grandmasters. Petrosian has been world champion and Korchinai might well have been one had not his nerves or his luck deserted him just at the end of both his matches against Karpov. Their styles of play are so dissimilar that we are certain to see a wonderful contest. In chess, as in electricity, you need both a negative and a positive and I give you one guess as to who is the negative and who the positive in this match.

Many people think Petrosian's chances are negligible in this match but this is not an opinion shared by all chess players or myself. How severe he can be is shown by the following impressive game which he won in the Rio de Janeiro Interzonal Tournament last year.

White : G. Sax. Black : T. Petrosian. French Defence.

1 P-K4	P-K3	3 B-N5 ch	N-B3
2 P-K3	P-K4	4 P-K2	ch B-K2
3 N-Q2	P-QB4	7 P-K2	
4 KP-P	NP-P		

As soon becomes apparent, the win of this pawn is purely temporary.

7	N-B3	10 B-K3	P-QB3
8 N-N3	O-O	11 B-R4	
9 N-B3	R-N1		

Playable, by a more natural and better was 11. BxN, PxR; 12. O-O, PQR4; 13. KR-K1, Q-B2; 14. Q-Q1, B-N5; 15. P-QR4, with a good game for White.

11 ... N-K5 12. O-O

Now this wing the King is never really in safety and instead he should have castled Kingside.

12	N-K4	15	KR-K1 B-QN5
13	N-N4	16	R-B1
14	N-N3	PxN	

After 15. P-QB3 Black destroys White's Queenside by 16. ... BxP.

16 ...	O-B2	17	Q-Q3
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Radio

Lawrence, the man and the myth

Writers, or some of them, seen often in our society to play a part assigned to witch doctors in more primitive cultures. They are thought if not to hold the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven (capital T), at least to be able from time to time to penetrate inside the front door, bringing back observations from those who have been in the land of the lost. A few specifically claim to be doing that very thing, but it is not necessary for the writer to promote himself in this respect since there will always be found members of his circle and/or readership ready to do the job for him. The need to feel that you are doing something that is very greater than the need in writers who believe they know it to disseminate the stuff.

An extreme example of this propagandist activity might be the portrait by Dorothy Brett of a very famous writer as the means of a kind of halo and the stylized asceticism of the features, the onlooker is invited to view the writer as a species of holy martyr. Without going that far, the less religious view of the same man by Iva suggests something intensely dramatic, even elemental.

This fifteenth anniversary of the Lawrence Sanders week has been a time to encourage such comparisons between these near-mythical representations and the

man himself. In the Sunday serial slot, the repeat of *Sons and Lovers* has been followed in short order by *Women in Love* (producer Trevor Hill). The first two episodes of Spencer's adaptation seemed to me at once to convey some of those characteristics of Lawrence as a writer which arrests the reader in spite of himself; that energy of narrative which turns even its blatant angularity into an asset; or the way in which the natural flow of dialogue for which Lawrence's later style is unhesitatingly sacrificed to the expression of some large, abrupt idea. No one ever conducted a conversation with Lawrence. The conversations of Crich and Rupert Birkin on their train journey at the end of this episode, yet it held me, perhaps because of the sheer energy of the exchange. At the same time the whole effect is oddly rebarbative and it strikes me that one consideration which may make listeners who are not used to the style yield completely to Lawrence's spell is the early suspicion that some of those large, abrupt ideas are not his own but that compelling quality belongs not at all to the realm of Truth (still with its large capital T), but to the realm of the subconscious—such as that woman is the centre and core of life.

Jehane Markham's impressive contribution to the great occasion, *Lawrence and Frieda*

(producer Brian Miller) contrived to reinforce this suspicion by presenting a portrait at once immensely vital, human and compassionate. Here the demythologising process was complete and the result was such an awkward, restless, striving man, full of fierce, sometimes naive and often very dubiously 'truthful' notions. To add to this, in the end, was to allay suspicion and increase respect. Seen as a work for radio, Jehane Markham's programme was most beautifully done. The whole dialogue was so alive and authentic as to merge seamlessly into the extracts from letters and other papers of the marriage. The whole script was expertly spaced and powerful when it wasn't tender: the events leading immediately to Lawrence's death were so skilfully handled that when he hovered outside his own body evoked, in a manner that froze the listener where he sat the man's extremity, in the two minutes between Pryce and Elizabeth Bell rose in every way to meet the demand of this exceptional piece of writing and production.

If there had been nothing quite to match *Lawrence and Frieda*, the week has brought much other good material. The slot at 4.10 on a Friday afternoon, the way of writing heard on 20 February, 'What's the up Who is the Dreamer?' a most interesting interview be-

When Jocelyn Rider-Smith, a young Englishwoman who became a Buddhist, came to live in a Tibetan community in India. From one point of view she could be seen as a subject lesson to those who wish to study in the East, as some instantaneous and if less mystical fix for she appeared to have undergone a process of total religious consecration. On the other hand, following at much the same time of day came the secret part of *If This is a Man* by the author Maurice Leitch. The second Levi came in the form of a letter from his wife, who had just been deported to Auschwitz in 1944. I missed part one of Michael Foss's adaptation of the second Levi coming, but the eighth-century return, your home, a trip which as it after train wheezed and sagged out of Poland and as it would never end.

There were bizarre incidents more curious than when some interminable in Russia. The Russian beyond a steady looking drove into the travellers' portery camp. A solitary officer clambered out and, as they were, they were home. They were Marshal T. shenko. And home they were. Not fast, of course, but in that before.

David Wa

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Continued on page

Travel I

Cruising in a Soviet showcase



Crowded quayside in Istanbul

In the light of subsequent events, the notes I made during a cruise on a Soviet liner last year have a certain irony about them. I wondered for some time whether an account of the trip would be worthy of inclusion in these columns, knowing the depth of feeling that often exists with regard to holidays and the Soviet Union. Under present circumstances...

However, the type of cruise holiday I sampled is being chosen by 1980 by British holidaymakers, although CTC Lines, who are the United Kingdom agents for the Baltic Shipping Company, readily admit that bookings are not as high as they would have expected under "normal" circumstances. As just about every other cruise company is suffering from a shortage of bookings, because of economic pressures, it is hard to evaluate how much the present state of affairs should be taken into account. Who is to say what is keeping passengers away from the vessels of the Anglo-Russian cruise operator? Economics or politics?

The ship on which I travelled last summer was the 15,000-ton *Odesa*, which began life as the *Copenhagen*, being built by Vickers for a Danish company. Completed in 1974, she never sailed under the Danish flag, as the company went out of business. The vessel was bought by the Black Sea Steamship Company, renamed *Odesa* (after her new port of registry) and began operating in 1975.

Using Genoa as a base, she carried out a series of one and two week cruises last summer, some of which took her into the Black Sea and to Soviet ports. I sampled one section of such a cruise, flying to Istanbul to join the vessel after she had already called at Malta and Larnaca. As usually happens, the impression one first gets is of turning up at a party after all the other guests have had an opportunity to get to know one another. One feels something of an odd man out, at least for a day or two. On this occasion, such a feeling was quickly dispelled, as the ship's staff—the social staff I suppose one should call them—set out to create a thoroughly welcoming atmosphere. If anything, their efforts proved once again what a good holiday a cruise is for anyone travelling alone.

The fact that passengers were more or less divided equally between German and British nationalities, with a gesticulating handful of Italians and a clutch of Dutch to make up the numbers, meant that chauvinism always threatened to break surface. The staff turned this to competitive advantage when it came to persuading passengers to participate in evening fun and games. Such participation is the mainstay of entertainment on many ships these days, although on *Odesa* it was supplemented by the efforts of the professionals on board, as well as the crew who, like all Soviet seamen and women, commanded a range of musical skills.

Only at mealtimes, and in particular around the lunch-time buffet table, was there any abrasion between the British and the German passengers, the dining room staff deriving very amusement from this. Food was plentiful and varied, the service very good, and none of the passengers to whom I spoke had any complaints on that score. Indeed, there were few complaints of any kind, although I had my own reservations about fitting into the life of a cruise ship.

The ship was full—480 passengers—but one felt no sense of overcrowding save on certain sections of the sun deck. And, again according to all the passengers I interviewed, such numbers did not detract from the excellent service they enjoyed, from waitresses and stewards, from cabin and bar staff. This is as it should have been, for after all, there were close on 300 staff to provide that service. That is a significant equation, that ratio of staff to passengers, for it is something that only the financial arithmetic of a state-run and state subsidised organization will allow. Certainly it could not be achieved by any of the shipping companies—the Greeks, the Italians, the British and Scandinavians—with whom the Soviet ships are now in competition. Make no mistake that it is a competition, and one which the Soviet organization fully intends to win—for financial and political reasons.

Apart from earning much needed hard currency, *Odesa* is a floating showcase to advertise the Soviet way of life. All manner of such "propaganda" touches may be observed, although the word itself is possibly too strong to convey what is being achieved. The quality of crew uniforms is extremely high, and in that respect the girls who clean and tidy the cabins wear a "uniform" of T-shirts and American jeans. (So who would claim that jeans are unobtainable?)

All the cabins have outside views, incidentally, and all have private showers and toilets. In addition, the ship boasts a sauna and a gymnasium, a swimming pool, night club, discotheque and a cinema. First class facilities, too. (One of the most popular films shown during the cruise—repeated by popular demand—in fact—was the James Bond thriller *The Spy Who Loved Me*, whose plot has the Soviet and British secret services co-operating to defeat the forces of evil. The crew, in particular enjoyed it.)

After Istanbul, *Odesa* sailed into the Black Sea to call at Yalta, Odessa and Constanta, before returning through the Bosphorus to call at Athens (where I had to leave her), Naples and Elba. The Soviet ports were of greatest attraction, giving passengers their

first glimpse of life ashore. Most took organized excursions (the coaches being supplied with interpreters, and various nationalities travelling separately) although it was possible, as I discovered, to travel independently. I would not judge the country by the brief glimpse I had of those two ports, though I am sure most cruise passengers would do so.

This year *Odesa* is based in New Orleans and, until the middle of May, is being offered as one ingredient of a fly, stay and cruise holiday. The 13 day inclusive arrangement, giving five nights in New Orleans and a week long cruise, costs from £732 according to current brochure prices.

Her place in the Mediterranean and Black Sea has been taken this year by *Galileo Galilei*, 27,000 tons and of Italian registry, and a vessel upon which I have not sailed and therefore cannot comment. Whether the Italian brand of service will match up to that provided by the Soviet sides, remains to be seen, as indeed does the prospect of her operating a successful season. The cost of two week cruises starts from £439, depending upon the style of cabin. Inevitably CTC has suffered the aftermath of the Afghanistan intervention. I understand the American based programme has suffered and learned recently that the Australian Government had decided to bar Soviet cruise ships from its ports. (To minimize the effect of this ban, CTC has chartered the 18,700-ton Greek vessel *Rasa Sayang*, as Australia is an important base in its programme.)

Looking to the long term, I see no reason why Soviet cruise ships should not enjoy great success. For reasons which are quite obvious, they are able to provide a high ratio of staff to passengers and thus a first class degree of service. During my time on board *Odesa* I met many British travellers who are old hands at the cruising game, and who have sampled the ships of many nationalities. Though there were a few minor criticisms regarding the price of drinks on board, all those passengers were full of praise for the ship and the way she was run. Quite independently, several compared her with ships on which they had travelled many years ago, equating her service standards with those "good old days." I have written here before about that nostalgia for cruising styles of the past. It would be most ironic if, of all nations, the Soviet Union provided such style in the 1980s.

A travel agent should have the CTC cruise brochures, including that of air/sea holidays and fly cruises. Or you may write to CTC at 1/3 Lower Regent Street, London, SW1Y 4NN.

John Carter

Travel II

A far cry from the Alps

My introduction to Aviemore was a sign on the hotel reception desk apologizing to all guests for the total lack of water in their rooms with the added intelligence that there was no chance of the supply being restored before morning. It was a blessing to be too tired to care. An enterprising management managed breakfast with tea, but for some reason not coffee, before the burst was repeated and with the help of a cold supply in the loos for the public bar it was possible to set off for the ski slopes, feeling refreshed and ready for as fast a hurdle down the piste as a near beginner can manage.

It soon turned out that at Aviemore on a Saturday it is best to temper enthusiasm with patience. The first regular bus

departs at 9.25 am and by the time it has reached the slopes the car park is already crowded, queues are forming for pickers and for the drag and chair lifts. Still by 11.00 am I had my first rock and came to the quick conclusion that the hard-packed ice crystal snow of the Cairngorms in the Spey Valley was a vastly different surface to the dry, smooth, often lightly powdered snow of the French Alps.

Having parted with £7.50 for a day's lift pass and £8.00 for two days boot and ski hire from the Scottish Norwegian Ski School it was not the time to give up easily. The Cue, intermediate runs, proved easy enough with a little practice and it was on to better things.

My only previous experience was a week's skiing in January

at the superb French resort of Serre Chevalier on a Ski Super-travel chalet holiday. Good conditions, sunny days, excellent instructors (it helps to speak French and the encouragement of newly made friends enabled me to cope reasonably with the moderately difficult red runs by the end of the week. It was, then, with reasonable confidence that I tackled the same grade in Aviemore. Pride came before many falls. Bumps the size of small hills soon had me changing my ideas on my competence. An embarrassing tumble of a two-man tow-bar had us both toppling in the snow and giving up easily. The Cue, intermediate runs, proved easy enough with a little practice and it was on to better things.

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left the runs with sheets of ice alternating with patches of new soft snow. It was easy to see why the more difficult runs were almost deserted, left for the fitters and the foolhardy. But for all that it was worth the trip. I can only make the one comparison, but skiing at Aviemore set against skiing in the Alps seems equivalent to sailing an inland reservoir and sailing on the sea. Even with my lack of competence it was possible to do all the runs which were open, and that was the majority, several times in the two days. The changing conditions and local quirks, as with inland sailing, present the challenge, but the small ski area makes frequent visits preferable to a longer holiday.

Nicholas Hirst

For those who like to have the latest and who can afford it, there is the Andrews Springfield ZTR range of ride-on mowers distributed in Britain by Bob Andrews Ltd, Sunningdale, Berks. These machines have certain unique features which appeal particularly to elderly or handicapped people. They are remarkably manoeuvrable and indeed the revolutionary "transaxle" enables them to turn in their own length. Controls are simple—two levers control forward and reverse movement, speed and steering—there are no clutch or gears to worry about and all models have an electric key start, automatic transmission, power steering and power brakes. There are three models; the 30in, 8hp machine at £1,094, the 42in, 8hp at £1,308, and the really de luxe model with sealed beam headlights, 42in, 11hp at £1,467—prices including VAT.

We are seeing a steady proliferation of garden cultivators—the build-up of models—reminds me of the state of machines that appeared in the 1950s only to dwindle to about half a dozen machines by the end of the 1960s. One wonders whether there is sufficient

demand to sustain production of the large number of models now on offer.

This is a field where one should tread warily, consult a dealer who handles a wide range of machines and try to find the one to suit your garden and your pocket. I would suggest however a look at the Norlett Beaver Powaspade, either the petrol motor model at around £170 or the mains voltage electric machine at around £180. My leaning would be towards the four-stroke petrol driven machine.

Everybody who uses chemicals in the garden should have the booklet "Directory of Garden Chemicals" the fifth edition of which has just been published, price 80p, postage paid, by the British Agrochemicals Association Ltd, Alembic House, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 2TU. Some 200 chemicals are listed in one section under their chemical names and in another under their trade names. So whether you are interested in herbicides (weedkillers), fungicide-fertilizer mixtures, insecticides, fumigants or other garden chemicals you can trace easily a product, what it does and the manufacturer.

All the member firms of the association undertake to abide by the government's "Pesticides Safety Precautions Scheme" so the products listed may be regarded as safe for use as directed and of course it goes without saying that one should scrupulously observe the makers' directions and the advice contained in this booklet.

Roy Hay

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Bridge

Slam exploration

The least attractive feature of any system is usually proved to be the asking bid which has become attached to it. Bridge was not designed as a Question and Answer game like *Happy Families*. A player was expected to bid in such a way that he asked no direct questions and did not invite them. I recently saw the abbreviation DABs on a convention card without knowing its meaning; I have now learnt that the competitor was announcing that she and her partner employed *Directional Asking Bids* which now form part of the ACOL system. A DAB is a low level cue-bid in an opponent's suit inviting partner to bid No trumps when he holds a partial guard in that suit (not, as formerly, when he claimed to have absolute control of it).

If bidding has proceeded:

North East South West
1 Heart 2 Spades
2 Hearts 3 Spades

North, holding ♠A5 ♥AK10 86 ♦K105 ♣AKJ10, is seeking to have the suit played in Hearts or in No trumps—preferably in No trumps if his partner has ♠Q5 or semi-protection in the suit. North therefore bids Three Spades inviting his partner to convert into Three No trumps if he can provide half guard in spades or if his hand is worth more with the lead up to it. South signs off in Four Hearts because the bid of another suit at the four level would be too encouraging.

A more entertaining version of a similar convention is the American slam exploration bid, known as DI which stands for either *Declarative Informative* or *Declarative Interrogative*. It has been defined as lying somewhere between the conventions which ask about specific controls in individual suits and conventions like *Blackwood* which ask about controls in bunched.

The Interrogative Four No trumps can receive three, as of response—negative, encouraging, or positive. The responder who wishes to show the minimum bids Five of the agreed suit. If he wishes to be mildly encouraging he bids a control or value below the agreed trump suit. Any bid by the responder higher than Five of the trump suit is positive, promising Two aces and more trump strength. The sequence could be Opener 1 Spade—Responder 2 Clubs; Opener 2 Hearts—Responder 3 Spades; Opener 4 Spades—Responder 4 No trumps (asking). Opener's negative reply is 5 Spades; 5 Clubs is encouraging; 5 No trumps demands a slam.

Needless to say, the convention can be used in various ways but is always asking for further information. Sardonious players among whom I include myself say that DI stands for "Do something with it."

A more valuable convention is the "splitter" raise, which can be made by either partner and allows the responder to show a singleton or void in a side-suit at the same time as he raises the trump suit. The sequence could be Opener 1 Spade—Responder 2 Clubs; Opener 2 Hearts—Responder 3 Spades; Opener 4 Spades—Responder 4 No trumps (asking). Opener's negative reply is 5 Spades; 5 Clubs is encouraging; 5 No trumps demands a slam.

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But where does all this information end? The answer to that question seems to reside in the "Fragment" bid.

A Fragment bid is an unusual jump rebid, devised by one Monroe Ingberman of Chicago, to show a fit with partner and a singleton or void in the fourth suit. I first read of it in an American magazine, and it has received recognition in Kearsley's *Bridge Conventions Complete*. Unlike splitter raises, the responder cannot use a Fragment raise at his first opportunity, because fragment bids require the naming of suits actually held rather than short suits. The opener, when he has tried himself five major suits, was sometimes hard-put to find the answer for which he was looking. Holding ♠AQ863 ♥AK5 ♦K197 ♣A, he opened One Spade and if he received a positive answer he made clear that game was certain and that a slam might be in the offing. The sequence might be:

Opener 1 Spade
Responder 2 Diamonds
Opener 3 Clubs
Responder 4 Clubs

Opener's 4 Hearts showed good support for Diamonds, strength, but not necessarily length, in Hearts, plus a singleton in the unbid suit (Clubs). The responder can make fragment rebids, but not on the first round because fragment rebids require genuine suits to be named rather than short suits.

Fragment bids by responder

require, I am told, much discussion between partners who seek to employ them. It is easy to see how confusion can arise by quoting from Bridge Conventions Complete.

Responder is promising shortage in Clubs.

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PATCHING UP THE ALLIANCE

The western alliance cannot survive without an adequate level of trust, and understanding between the United States and West Germany. They are the two pillars on which the whole structure depends. This does not rule out disagreements. There have been plenty over the past thirty years. It simply means that the basic mutuality of interest must never be forgotten or wantonly jeopardized. Herr Schmidt's visit to Washington this week has been valuable in demonstrating that the foundations remain firm enough to carry the remaining differences.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan put a considerable strain on the relationship, which has been more than usually troubled ever since Mr Carter took office. The West Germans had been resisting heavy American pressure to join in drastic measures against Iran for the sake of the American hostages. They were slow to see the wider implications of Afghanistan. They reacted with an instinctive defence of their own immediate interests when they felt they were being asked to put at risk the fruits of ten years of hard work dedicated to undoing the enmities of the war, building up trade and other contacts with East Germany and the rest of eastern Europe, securing the vulnerable access routes to West Berlin, and getting ethnic Germans out of Poland and the Soviet Union. This is a selection year and these achievements form a substantial part of the Government's record.

Communication problems

The Americans were justified in seeing this view as too limited. The West Germans must be as threatened as anyone if the Russians come to believe they can use force with impunity, especially in the vicinity of the oil fields of the Gulf. If European détente must be saved at any price the price will rise steadily until Europe is forced to defer to the Soviet Union on issues involving its immediate security. But Mr Carter did not make things any easier for himself or the Germans by his maladroit handling of the situation. If the Germans lack global perceptions, he lacks European perceptions. He had not fully informed his allies about Soviet preparations for the invasion, which had been visible since October. Nor did he inform them about the warnings he had conveyed to the Russians. When the invasion took place he worked out a list of proposed sanctions without full consultation. Then he sent Mr Warren Christopher to Europe for discus-

sions, which was sensible, but no sooner had Mr Christopher assured the allies that the idea of boycotting the Olympics would be reviewed at leisure than Mr Carter appeared on American television with his own hasty decision. Then there was the muddle over the proposed summit conference which caused the French to climb back on to their Gaullist horse. It seemed to many Europeans that they were expected to rally automatically behind the American flag without even being asked their opinion. Since their faith in Mr Carter's judgment has never been strong it was asking too much. He reaped the fruits of this distrust.

A good deal of repair work has been done since then between Bonn and Washington, and Herr Schmidt's visit has put the seal on it. There are still differences over the Olympics but both leaders agree in their communiqué that their assessments of the situation in Afghanistan are close to each other and that the Soviet invasion creates a serious threat to peace and international security. At the same time they agree that in the present period of increased tension the framework of east-west relations built up over two decades should be preserved. Their aim is still to reduce world tension. Obviously these words can be seen as bridging two still divergent views but at least the bridge is there.

Moreover the Germans are not being laggard in practical measures. They already have a better record than the Americans or the British in keeping up their defence effort. The annual average growth of their defence spending at constant prices in 1971-8 was 2.91, whereas Britain's was 1.62 and America's an embarrassing minus 2.69. Unlike Britain and America the Germans have compulsory military service which gives them very large trained reserves. And it was their impulse which led to the controversial decision to bring new missiles into Europe against powerful Soviet objections.

It would be difficult for West Germany to do much more without re-awakening old fears among her neighbours. Nevertheless, Herr Schmidt has promised to keep this year's defence spending up to the NATO target of three per cent growth instead of allowing the small drop which had been envisaged. He may also take on more responsibility for naval security in the North Sea. At the same time he is stepping up military aid to Turkey, which was maintained during the American suspension. Additional economic aid will go to Pakistan.

DEATH TO THE DOLPHINS

The proverb about there being plenty of fish in the sea has been looking threadbare for some time. Icelanders and Grimshy men, Russians and Falmouth mackerel-fishers, are forever competing for shrinking catches, and we have seen cod and herring advance far along the road already trodden by the oyster, from cheap snack to extravagant treat. The rivalry between man and man is hardly less intense than that between man and other species with a taste for fish, as witness the repeated upsurges over the culling of seals in Britain and Canada and the massacre of dolphins in Japan. Yesterday the Japanese Foreign Minister described the controversy over the dolphin cull on the island of Iki as an instance of differing customs in Japan and the West.

It is not difficult to see why the dolphin has gained so many protectors. There are few animals which so notably combine beauty, intelligence and goodwill. Stories of their haunting eagerness to make contact with mankind go back at least as far as the younger Pliny, and it is a recurring feature of these tales that human malice or clumsiness make the dolphin suffer in the end for its initiative. Considering how large and

diverse our own species is, and how prone to cruelty within itself, it is strange how wistfully, and almost guiltily, we hanker for friendly contact outside our own numbers. Recent scientific studies of the large and complex brain of the dolphin, and their animated communications, have reinforced the sense that this even more than other animals has claims to be treated in something more than a utilitarian spirit.

Such feelings come more easily to those who know dolphins mainly as television performers than they do to fishermen who meet them as rivals for the catch. Fishing at night with lamps to attract cuttlefish and yellowtail to their nets, they claim to lose nine tenths of their usual haul to dolphins, who soon learn to associate lights with easy pickings. Little research has been done to prove or disprove these claims (the continuing argument over the effect of seals on fish stocks around Britain shows how difficult it is to get clear results), but the ingenuity and hearty appetite of the dolphin make it hard to dismiss the charge altogether.

The sight of hundreds of them dying on a beach is a hideous

Contractual obligations in trade with the Warsaw Pact will not be broken, since the Americans are not breaking them either, but West Germany will go along with more stringent screening of exports for possible military value, which could mean taking vital computers out of industrial projects.

All this should absolve West Germany of the charge of not doing enough. But it may not entirely dispel residual fears among her allies that her special stake in relations with eastern Europe will always expose her to the temptation of putting these relations first. There are at least three replies to these fears. First, there is no sign of any serious trend in any significant area of West German politics to deny that the country is totally dependent on the United States and the western alliance for her security. Complaints about American policies and efforts to promote European initiatives fall a long way short of incipient disloyalty.

New approach needed

Secondly, the alliance should learn to make constructive use of West Germany's perceptions. An alliance, like democracy, needs the stimulus of different views. It needs a certain level of pluralism, and sometimes a division of labour. The Americans, especially in times of crisis, forget this. Yet West Germany has a fund of political and historical experience in relations with eastern Europe and the Soviet Union which can narrow her vision but can also deepen it. The alliance could be a beneficiary.

Thirdly, diversity is useful only if it can find expression through effective channels of communication. The crisis in Afghanistan has shown up yet again the shortcomings of transatlantic communication. The Nine have built up a remarkably successful machinery for continuous political consultation and cooperation. Information flows smoothly among the European capitals. For the Americans there is an informal agreement of 1974 which provides for consultations with the Nine through the Presidency. It has been adequate for much of the time but it operates on a case by case basis and is dependent on consensus being reached among the Nine. It does not involve the Americans in a continuous flow of information and consultation. Nor does it provide adequate standing machinery for rapid consultation in times of crisis. The present crisis should shake the alliance into a new look at this problem.

one. But man's relationship with other animals gives rise to many similar scenes, and most of us accept that it is legitimate to need to give precedence to our own interests even up to such a point. The fishermen might be justified in their killing if it served their essential interests. Unlike most larger cetaceans, dolphins do not seem to be in any danger of extinction. Since it is reported that some 35,000 dolphins gather round Iki every year, the customary slaughter can scarcely have much effect on numbers. But equally it cannot have much effect on the nuisance.

What makes the culling ugly and futile is that more effective means of keeping dolphins out of the nets already exist: loudspeakers broadcasting their alarm-calls are apparently both effective and inexpensive. Japan has been slower than other countries in applying scientific principles of conservation to fisheries. The dolphin cull (and the official support for it represented by the bounty paid for each one killed) should not be shrugged off as custom: if it cannot be justified on good evidence as a necessary act of marine husbandry, it should be prohibited.

A solution from Erewhon?

From Mr Ray Whitney, MP for Wycombe (Conservative)

Sir, The bankers are embarrassed about their high profits and many of us are worried about the effects of the economies on the BBC orchestras (although some surgery is probably justified).

Surely we can find a way to protect the bankers from their embarrassment and our cultural life from impoverishment?

Yours sincerely,
RAY WHITNEY,
House of Commons,
March 6.

From Mr David Head

Sir, The week in which the BBC announced some of its proposed cuts saw *The British Rock and Pop Awards* broadcast from the Café Royal on BBC1 (February 27). Absent winners—one lot in Hong Kong, the other in the United States—had their awards, together with a disc jockey to do the honours, flown out to them. Furthermore, it was then made necessary to transmit the presentation of these awards live via satellite.

This is, of course, just one example of conspicuous waste. But there are many more, as I am sure the BBC's public is well aware. I am equally sure that this all too frequently disregarded public would include neither the doomed orchestras nor *Wagner's Walk* in its top ten list of BBC extravaganzas.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HEAD,
Lecturer in German,
University of Bath,
Claverton Down,
Bath,
March 3.

Slaughter of dolphins

From Mr R. J. Hopkins

Sir, The brutal massacre of some 500 dolphins trapped by Japanese fishermen in a bay at Iki Island (report, February 29) must have angered and sickened many people. There will be a great deal of sympathy for those who, revolted by such cruel butchery, were impelled to intervene, no doubt at some risk to themselves, to release a number of the trapped animals.

The dolphins have been accused of depleting stocks of squid and yellowtail and local fishermen claim an increase in their numbers. But such claims are apparently based on uncorroborated sightings and are not supported by rational scientific observations. Even if they were substantiated surely the cruel killing of these friendly and intelligent creatures by such odious methods as clubbing and knifing cannot possibly be justified.

Marine catches are governed by many factors and it is unfortunate that knowledge regarding the complexities of the marine ecosystem is so poor. No simple consensus can be made between fluctuations in catches and numbers of dolphins. Humanity demands the suspension of this killing pending a thorough and expert survey of the situation, both in regard to the allegation that the dolphins are a significant threat to fish stocks as well as the methods used.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. HOPKINS,
Executive Director,
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,
Causeway,
Horsbawn,
Sussex,
March 3.

Mysticism

From Mrs Hilary Wakeman

Sir, Writing about the resurgence of the occult and the rise of the pseudo-mysticism, your religious affairs correspondent refers (February 25) to the beginnings of a movement, based on the teachings of the medieval anchorite Julian of Norwich, which has been started by the Dean of St Paul's.

The movement he mentions is, presumably, the Julian Meetings. Its rapid growth in the seven years since it began is proof of its contention that there is a spiritual revival which has not been met by the contemporary Christian Church. The movement seeks to foster the teaching and practice of mystical prayer, or contemplative meditation, within the Christian tradition, while accepting with discrimination the influences of other mystical traditions, as Buddhism and Sufism. One of its strengths is that Catholics, Anglicans, Quakers, Methodists and others meet on common ground, mystical prayer transcending denominational distinctions. There are now over 50 informal groups in Britain, and beginnings overseas.

The Dean of St Paul's is not a founder of the Julian Meetings, although he is known and appreciated as a Julian enthusiast. Since there are to our knowledge, no similar movements based on Mother Julian's teachings, we can only assume that the Dean and JM have been erroneously amalgamated.

Yours sincerely,
HILARY WAKEMAN,
Convener, Julian Meetings,
Biffington Lodge,
Dereham,
Norfolk,
February 28.

Closed doors

From Mr John M. Rose

Sir, Last Sunday my nephew was born in a hospital in Kent. His father, my brother, now in his forties, had asked for a child throughout his married life. On Monday morning the child was dead.

Bowed in his grief, my brother sought the prayerful sanctuary of a church on his return home from the hospital on Monday. He could not gain entry to one.

Once more the Church had locked its doors against the needs of a man who had once again the vials of his grief. Yours truly,
JOHN M. ROSE,
46 Claremont Road,
Highgate, N6,
March 5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Priorities in education

From Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, CH

Sir, I have not written to you for

decades but there are certain only-appreciations in Ronald Butt's article of today (March 6) which I should like to answer. The suggestion I made in my speech on the second reading of the Education (No. 2) Bill in the House of Lords was to the effect that the Government could save money on the assisted places scheme and thus delete clause 23 imposing charges on rural transport for children. I acknowledge the Government's interest for introducing the assisted places scheme owing to their disappointment about the destruction of the direct grant schools. I pointed out that I had already spoken against the late government's action in this respect. I thought that the assisted scheme had been truncated.

For myself I have been interested in the possibility of children going to the independent schools for many years but I have always thought the cost was the main difficulty. Moreover I emphasized the need to spend money on improving the state system in the state system. To my mind the decision at Felstead where I was a governor for 40 years to introduce some "Butler scholars" from the maintained system. As for Mr Butt's last sentences, he may be relieved to know that about 10 of my many grandchildren have entered the state system. Yours sincerely,
BUTLER,
House of Lords,
March 6.

From Lord Stewart of Fulham, CH

Sir, Mr Ronald Butt writes (March 6) about "the different types of secondary school established by the 1944 Act and goes on to say that the Act required that pupils should be educated in accordance with their age, aptitude and ability; whether this should be done in selective or non-selective schools was left open, as far as the Act was concerned, but the preceding White

Paper, published by the wartime coalition government, stated emphatically that there was nothing to be said in favour of selection at 11.

Selection, so far from being ushered in by the 1944 Act, had long been in use to determine which pupils should get free places at grammar schools and which should go to "senior elementary" schools. After the war, some local authorities simply went on using selection and renamed the "senior elementary" schools as "secondary moderns". Others, from the start, adopted the comprehensive principle.

Mr Butt goes on to say that it will be cheaper in terms of real cost to send a child on full fees to a former direct grant school than to keep him in the state system. If Mr Butt can persuade the Government to believe this, perhaps they will accept the Opposition amendment limiting the fees that can be paid to the average cost per pupil of state secondary education. In any case, it looks as if Mr Butt has confused average and marginal costs. Fees will be based on average cost per pupil; this is bound to be the case. The marginal saving achieved by extracting a few pupils from each state secondary school. The financial memorandum to the Bill gives the cost of the assisted places scheme as £30,000,000; it does not think any consequential saving in the state system worth mentioning.

In Mr Butt's view the assisted places scheme will be a "healthy challenge" to the public sector of education. In fact, there is hardly anything of which the public sector can learn from the independent schools because it has a different and much more difficult task to perform. Unlike the independent it cannot simply that task by rejecting all those who do not show exceptional aptitude at the age of 11 and expelling those whose behaviour presents too many difficulties. Its job is to provide the best education the nation can afford for all the nation's children; it is on this job that the nation's efforts should be concentrated.

Yours faithfully,
STEWART OF FULHAM,
House of Lords,
March 6.

Changes in divorce law

From Lady Harris of Greenwich and Mrs Hilary Halpin

Sir, We were interested to read the report in your columns (February 27) of the visit of the all-party Group for Divorce Reform to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone.

As professional counsellors working with people who are facing the dissolution of their marriage, our observations may be relevant to the current discussion.

The recent divorce law reforms, whilst undoubtedly necessary to remedy the previous unsatisfactory state of affairs, have created a complex and confusing situation. No fault laws appear to afford the ordinary person's sense of natural justice when it comes to the settlement of disputes over money and children. The ensuing bitterness all too often is transferred into the legal and judicial process, and the dissatisfaction now being so loudly expressed is demonstrating the extent to which all parties involved in a divorce feel that insult has been added to injury in their particular case.

Working as we do in the field of human relationships, we feel entitled to query whether further legislation would effectively deal with the existing unsatisfactory situation.

Our reasons for establishing the Divorce Counselling and Advisory Service arose from our concern that the technical side of dissolving a marriage was now relatively simple

Central heating for pensioners

From Mrs Margot K. Churcher

Sir, As an old-age pensioner, I cannot afford to keep my house heated for much of the day. It was, therefore, a great pleasure when I recently went in person to pay my electricity and gas bills (to save the cost of postage) to discover that both offices were at temperatures reminiscent of the south of France in a heat wave.

I then went into the local post office to draw my pension, and discovered that a new central heating system had been installed, doubtless to celebrate the new 10p and 12p letter rates. The temperature must have been 80°F.

Quite apart from the saving it would mean on those operating expenses that they are always using as an excuse for higher charges, it would be nice if our public servants could make the same contribution to energy conservation as their prices have forced upon senior citizens.

Failing that, the obvious solution to old age pensioners' constant struggle to keep warm is to spend a few hours every day camping out in their friendly neighbourhood public offices.

Yours sincerely,
MARGOT K. CHURCHER,
99 Victoria Road,
Warrimoor,
Wiltshire,
March 1.

Pots or kettles?

From Professor Graham Hough

Sir, There are many things in the trade union world about which everyone is confused. But there is really no need for Mr Leves (February 28) to feel confused about strikes and ballots.

If all decisions both to strike and to return to work were taken by ballot it would be perfectly clear that they represented a majority decision of the workers concerned. Trade union leaders are terrified of the ballot because they know it will destroy their power—the power to make decisions without consulting their members and to maintain them by intimidation.

That is why Mr Sirs is out to wreck the proposed ballot of the steel workers, and the TUC has rejected Government proposals for ballots financed by the state.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM HOUGH,
The White Cottage,
Grantchester,
Cambridge,
February 28.

Pleasures of patronage

From Mr Arthur Crook

Sir, May a very real admirer of Michael Ratcliffe's acumen and prose cavil at one sentence in his perceptive review of Charles Osborne's biography of Auden (March 6)? He writes: "He (Osborne) is a professional literary man, a poet, a critic and, as literature director of the Arts Council and organizer of the Poetry International, a patron of other poets." Mr Osborne may be the instrument, but surely he, the taxpayers, are the patrons?

I am reminded of an old friend once working for the Ford Foundation in New York, who excused a late arrival at luncheon by explaining that he had spent the morning commissioning three new operas. On that occasion, however, the apology compensated with the disarming question: "Can there be a more agreeable sensation than backing one's own individual fancies with someone else's money?"

Yours,
ARTHUR CROOK,
The Garrick Club, WC2.

Hand to hand

From Mr Beverley Nichols

Sir, May I contribute to Bernard Levin's "parlour game" (March 5)?

Among my mentors in the twenties was Albert Baillie, the old Dean of Windsor, who often entertained young writers at Windsor Castle, where the warmth of his personality compensated for the icy draughts of the Deanery.

One night we were discussing Carlyle's *French Revolution*. He mentioned, en passant, that his great-uncle had visited France in 1789. "A dull young man," he observed, "but judging by his portrait, extremely handsome. At his first ball in Paris he danced into the small hours with Marie Antoinette."

Yours faithfully,
BEVERLEY NICHOLS,
Sudbrook Cottage,
Ham Court Avenue,
Ham Common,
Richmond,
Surrey,
March 6.

In the dark

From Mr R. H. Richardson

Sir, In the autumn we put the clocks back to wintertime five weeks after the equinox. However, in the spring we have to wait until only a few days from March 21 before we are allowed to enjoy and to use an hour's extra daylight in the evening rather than to waste one in the morning.

Can you, some learned reader, or better still the Home Office, the department responsible, explain why? What does the Department of Energy, Save-it Division, have to say?

Yours faithfully,
R. H. RICHARDSON,
11 Broom Water,
Teddington,
Middlesex.

Ladies first

From Miss Mary Hayman

Sir, The women hostages in Bagdad, I have been released, but there has been no word of protest at this discrimination from Women's Lib. May one ask why not?

Yours faithfully,
MARY HAYMAN,
3 Middle Woodbrook,
Sidmouth, Devon,
March 3.

Transport in London

From Mr Ian Simons

Sir, Your recent correspondence about London Transport, prompted a returning resident after five years in Paris, to pinpoint the differences between the Paris public transport system (the RATP) probably the cheapest and best in Europe and the London Transport, arguably the worst and certainly the most expensive.

The Paris system is clean. On the Metro, unlike the Underground, there are litter bins on platforms, no smoking is allowed in buses or trains; cleaning is carried out by outside contractors. But this agreeable state of affairs is as nothing compared to the sheer efficiency and cheapness of the system.

Trains and buses run frequently, each manned by one person. Automation works throughout the system for ticket control. Unlike the Tube, where some stations have been equipped with robot monsters which need not be used. In Paris all stations and all buses have appropriate equipment.

Fares are raised once a year on July 1 throughout the system, no separate fares for buses and Metro, and they both cost the same. Apart from cleanliness, efficiency and frequency the system is also cheap. For between £3 and £12 a month (Paris is used for public transport

purposes so the more expensive seasons are those farthest from the centre) a ticket is available for the whole system, Metro and bus, and the Paris equivalent of the North London BR line. The season can be bought on a monthly or yearly basis; the 10 ticket carnet or individual tickets can be bought any time in advance and all of them can be used interchangeably on any London Transport, arguably the worst and certainly the most expensive.

Can London Transport learn nothing from other experience? I heartily endorse Mr Blackburn's call (February 26) for Londoners to remedy matters, but not only for Sunday buses, to revolutionize the whole concept and dynamism of what only 20 years ago was the envy of other countries. California had its successful Proposition 13 on taxation may we Londoners do something similar for London Transport.

Yours faithfully,
IAN SIMONS,
6 Holland Park, W11.

Wisdom and the arms race

From Canon Eric James

Sir, One can only be profoundly thankful that men of such military distinction as Sir John Gubb are now taking the attitude to nuclear

war revealed in his letter of March 3.

For some curious reason one of the last major speeches of Earl Mountbatten on the occasion of the award of the Louise Weiss Foundation Prize to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute at Strasbourg, on May 11, 1979, seemed to escape the attention of the press. Yet he said: "As a military man who has given half a century of active service I say in all sincerity that the nuclear arms race has no military purpose. Wars cannot be fought with nuclear weapons. Their existence only adds to our perils because of the illusions which they have generated. There are powerful voices around the world who still give credence to the old Roman precept—if you desire peace prepare for war. This is absolute nonsense."

We owe it to that great man's memory to heed his words. The whole deeply moving, yet closely reasoned speech deserves attention; and I would come to a privilege to send a copy of the speech to all your readers who request one.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC JAMES,
Honorary Director, Christian Action, 43 Holwell Hill,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal
investment and
finance
pages 18 and 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 455.7, down 2.3
FT Gilt 63.85, down 0.09

Sterling
\$222.85, down 50 pts
Index 71.9, down 0.1

Dollar
Index 87.2, up 0.1

Gold
\$613.50, down 514

Money
3 mth sterling 18-18 1/2
3 mth Euro 18 1/2-18 1/2
6 mth Euro 18 1/2-18 1/2

IN BRIEF

Rhodesian dollar evaluated by 1.9 pc

The Rhodesian dollar has been evaluated by about 3.9 per cent against all currencies other than the South African rand, effective immediately, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has announced.

"In future the rand exchange rate will be quoted in the same way as the exchange rates for other currencies, and could, therefore, vary from day to day."

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Prime rates again soar to record levels with 18 pc set in Chicago

By Caroline Atkinson
in London
and Frank Vogl
in Washington

The latest round in the international interest rates war came yesterday with further rises in United States prime rates. Large banks, including Citibank, raised their rates 1 point to a record 17 1/2 per cent, and Harris Trust, of Chicago, went further to 18 per cent.

Money was still trading in dollars for most of the day, attracted by ever higher American interest rates. Some dealers had expected Citibank to go higher than 17 1/2 per cent, and to hold back for a while. The bank itself admitted that on purely market considerations the prime rate should go above 17 1/2.

The United States money markets are waiting to see what economic steps President Carter will announce, and whether the Fed intends to act as well.

Prices on Wall Street were depressed yesterday as the banks raised the cost of finance for their most credit-worthy customers for the sixth time this year. Still higher rates are widely expected to come as inflation continues to accelerate.

German, Swiss and Japanese central banks were again in the foreign exchange markets selling dollars to hold up their currencies. The dollar topped DM4.80 at one stage before coming back to close at DM4.795.

Sterling was 1 cent down on the day at \$2.2285. Against a basket of currencies it lost 0.1 points to finish at 71.9 per cent of its end 1971 value.

Sterling has fallen sharply in the last week but has not been under such selling pressure in the market as other, usually hard currencies. The difference has been that the Bank of England has not spent much in trying to support the pound, in contrast to other central banks.

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Callaghan call to reject Inmos site

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

In the continuing controversy over the location of the first United Kingdom factory of Inmos, the National Enterprise Board's semiconductor subsidiary, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, was yesterday urged by Mr James Callaghan, leader of the Opposition, to refuse to issue an Industrial Development Certificate for the proposed factory at Bristol.

Earlier, Sir Keith had told Mr Callaghan that he (Sir Keith) had no power to direct Inmos to locate a factory at any particular site. Yesterday Sir Keith received a letter from Mr Callaghan in which the former Prime Minister argued that the Secretary of State did have power to indicate where the company should not go.

Inmos already has a technology centre (for research and development) at Bristol, and has chosen Bristol for the factory, in part because of the benefits of having the two units close together. Opposition to the choice of site has come from MP representing constituencies in the assisted areas, including Mr Callaghan (Cardiff south-east) among the South Wales members.

On March 5 Sir Keith wrote to Mr Callaghan: "The Government's involvement in the project is limited to (a) deciding whether to provide further funding and (b) depending on the location chosen by Inmos, whether to provide an Industrial Development Certificate. The decision about the actual location is a matter for the National Enterprise Board and Inmos."

On Tuesday I met a delegation led by Mr Alan Williams, consisting of MPs representing assisted areas. They put to me the case for the project to be sited in an assisted area on the basis of my control over the issue of an IDC and in particular the case for Cardiff and Washington referred to in the PA Consultants' report. I listened, of course, to their arguments and will take all that was said into account, but I must emphasize that I have no powers to direct Inmos to site the project in a particular area.

"My duty is to decide, if the further funding is provided by the Government, whether or not to grant an IDC for the proposed Bristol factory. I repeat that I have no power to direct Inmos where to go."

Mr Callaghan's reply, on March 6 and received by Sir Keith yesterday, said: "Of course I recognize that you have no power to direct Inmos where to go. On the other hand, in view of the size of the unit, more than 50,000 sq ft, it is possible for you to indicate where they should go."

This is a reference to the minimum size of unit for which an IDC is required, and is, in other words, a plea that an IDC should not be granted. Mr Callaghan continued:

"That fact, combined with the requirement that the NEB has to take into account other matters of regional policy, gives you, in my judgment, a rather greater influence in this matter than your letter indicates."

The NEB's recommendation that Inmos should receive its second tranche of £25m funding was considered by a Cabinet committee last Thursday but no conclusion emerged. It will be discussed again early next week.

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Serck directors support £33m takeover bid from Rockwell

By Peter Wainwright

Rockwell International Corporation, the big American aerospace and electronics group, has decided to make a £33m offer for Serck, the British valve and heat transfer group. Rockwell already owns 6.5 million ordinary shares in Serck amounting to 29.7 per cent.

The directors of Serck led by Mr Robin Martin have agreed to support the offer of 77p a share. On the Stock Exchange the shares based 21p to 72p on a full day for shares in general.

The bid values the United Kingdom group at £33m. Rockwell spent nearly £10m on buying its stake in Serck early last month, when it paid 75p a share. At that time the American group seemed to have taken the holding as an investment. The company said it was looking for a "closer relationship" with Serck.

Serck's advisers, Robert Fleming, who consider the bid terms fair and reasonable, said the value was "wide ranging and exploratory".

It soon became clear that, having looked at part of Serck and pondered a possible joint venture, Rockwell would go ahead with an outright bid.

Rockwell has given Serck assurances that it plans to develop the valve-maker's existing business. It believes that the acquisition will not lead to redundancies and employment practices will be preserved.

The move caught Serck by surprise, and the Stock Exchange started investigating

dealings just before the raid. Serck is no stranger to bid approaches. It fought off a £34m bid worth 85p a share from Asselt Engineers early in 1977.

Rockwell itself in May last year succeeded in gaining William-Breiden, and in June obtained a listing for its shares on the Stock Exchange.

Rockwell already has a presence in the United Kingdom, with sales of £185.8m and assets of nearly £140m.

Serck employs around 4,700 in the United Kingdom and the value of its assets last September was £37.1m, or just over 87p a share.

Rockwell won a commanding position after a stock market raid in which Cazenove, the broker bought its entire stake in three hours when it let it be known to institutions and the market that 75p a share was available. This was almost double the previous market price.

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Bank acts to hold UK interest rates down

By John Whitmore

The Bank of England took further action yesterday to hold down United Kingdom interest rates by announcing it is to defer temporarily plans to drain £500m out of the banking system next week.

Specifically, the bank is to extend its gilt-edged repurchase arrangement with the clearing banks. Under this arrangement the bank bought £500m of gilts from the banks on February 15 on condition that they would repurchase the stocks by March 13. The clearing banks, who are paying interest at MLR for the privilege of this facility, now have until April 14 to unwind the arrangement.

The bank's aim was to ensure that the banks would have adequate liquid assets to meet the demand for loans. Exceptionally heavy flows of money out of the banking system into the hands of the Exchequer had been placing banking liquidity under severe strain and threatening to leave the banks short of the reserve assets they are required to hold in support of their overall book.

Without official assistance the banks would have been forced to bid in additional funds from outside the banking system, forcing short-term interest rates, and ultimately bank base rates, significantly higher.

The gilt repurchase agreement is not the only assistance the bank has given. In mid-January they released to the banks the £1,000m special deposits. The original plan had been to recall these funds within a matter of weeks, but continuing pressure on liquidity subsequently led to deferring the recall until April and May.

Normally the flow of money to the Exchequer would have started to reverse by early March as the main tax-paying season drew to a close. This year, however, the flow to the Exchequer has been much more than normal and during the last month has been running at a longer period.

January took in particularly large sales of government stock to private and overseas investors; payments of VAT have been coming in late; and this month the oil companies have had to find funds for accelerated Petroleum Revenue Tax payments and forward purchases of oil from the BNO.

The advantages of the partnership, Mr Lewis said: "In an inflationary period earnings may, or may not, keep pace with prices. Whatever the degree of success may be, partners know that at the end of the year they will share in the profit."

The second advantage is that the partnership trades in an unusually wide range of merchandise through many outlets. This diversity in food as well as in department stores, if not unique in British retailing, has developed the partnership to an exceptional degree.

Department store sales rose by 19 per cent, to £37.5m, in 1979. Sales were up by 25 per cent to £263.3m. One new department store and four supermarkets were opened and the group now has 18 stores and 70 supermarkets.

All profits from the partnership after tax, preference dividends, contributions to pensions and reinvestment, are distributed annually among the workforce.

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Seagrams head denies backing for Lonrho bid

By Philip Robinson

The wealthy Bronfman family from North America yesterday denied suggestions from both sides of the Atlantic that it is to put up the money for Mr Graham Ferguson, Lonrho's rumoured bid for Lonrho.

In New York, a press spokesman for Mr Edgar Bronfman, head of the world's biggest drinks company Seagrams, flatly denied that the family had ever spoken to Mr Lacey or been approached about bidding for Lonrho.

In Toronto, Mr Jack Cocking, executive vice-president of Edper, the private investment group of Peter and Edward Bronfman, said: "We have no connection with Mr Lacey or Lonrho."

In London, a spokesman for Mr Lacey said: "It's not true at all. The Bronfmans are not involved."

But Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, was taking the rumours seriously last night. He said that anyone looking at the company would see its "break-up" potential.

Seagrams could be interested in its Whyte Mackays scotch whisky, its hotels and French wine interests. Edper, through mining interests, owns a share in which it bought last year, has board members known to be interested in Lonrho's mining operations, Mr Rowland said.

"I don't think Mr Lacey has a bean, but I know the Bronfmans have and it could be that Mr Lacey is putting things together," Mr Rowland added.

Mr Lacey is understood to be continuing talks with Sheikh Nasser over buying his 19 per cent stake in Lonrho, held through Gulf Fisheries.

An announcement on the deal had been expected at the end of February, but in the event, Mr Lacey delayed any announcement until the end of this month saying there were no problems but talks were continuing.

Meanwhile Mr Lacey's United Kingdom investment activities continue. Last night directors of Cheshire-based plastics group Bernard Wardle urged shareholders to accept the 33p a share bid from Mr Lacey's newly-forming company Ferguson Investments. They say they intend to support the offer.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

Last week's "grouse" on the tax penalties married bliss can incur, has prompted many couples to remind us of other hardships married couples face.

But perhaps the most telling letter came from the reader who pointed out the inconsistencies between the approach of the Inland Revenue and the Department of Health and Social Security to women who choose not to get married, but do in fact live with a man.

The Inland Revenue does not care two hoots whether or not a couple are legally man and wife or in fact two single persons living together as a family unit. If they are married, they are taxed as one unit (unless the wife elects for separate taxation of her earned income); if they are not married they are taxed as two single persons, and that's that.

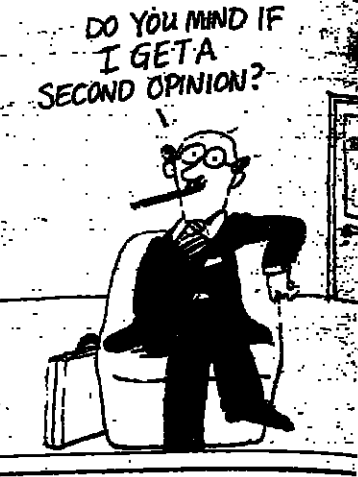
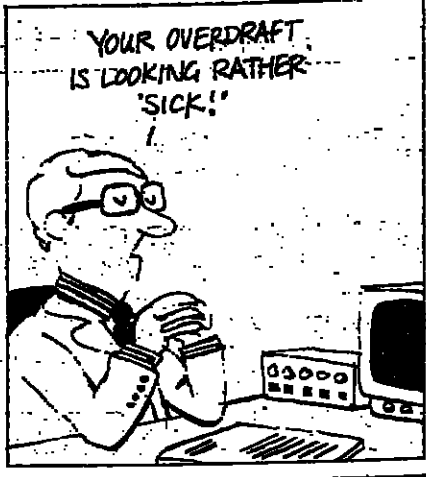
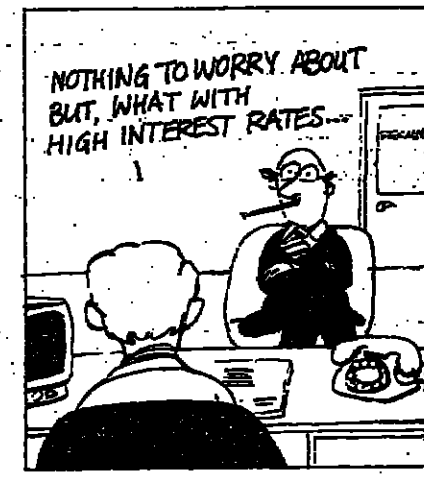
Compare, and contrast, the situation

facing the widow who might not wish to remarry but does cohabit with a man. Her widow's benefit, if she is discovered, is forfeit. Some of the extreme stories about social security snafus may be exaggerated, but the fact remains that the DHSS does have, and uses, special investigators to check that two single persons are not better off than their married counterparts.

Heaven forbid that the Inland Revenue should take to issuing telescopes to check up on the actual status of purportedly single taxpayers who happen to share an address in common.

But taxation and social security benefits are closely related (remember the tax credit scheme which planned to put them under the same metaphorical roof?). It is this important inconsistency which hurts the least well off.

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Double or quits

Putting money on a N Sea gusher

Investments are like gardens. They must be tended in case they grow rank. So it is time to return to Double or Quits in share buying and selling to give thrills without spills (but do not blame me if you bruise your shins now and then).

My biased opinion is that we have indeed had one or two mild thrills, and no spills at all. Now it is time for a show of daring. This week I give you Charterhouse Group, so far an unrecognized member of the craziest and most exciting club of all, North Sea oil. But more of this later.

To recap. Our decision to sell Dunlop on February 15 at 63p still seems sensible. The shares rest at 63p and wait uneasily for something to turn up. Unless it does in an exciting way, the shares will probably wilt.

We keep Westland Aircraft which took off at 47p on December 1, and are now 76p. Here they are doing so well I will keep an eye on them. However, the scope for rerating the shares after their splendid recovery is still considerable. Staveley took a bow on December 29 at 156p. Buying has lifted them to a sprightly 182p and I will let the profit run.

Ocean Transport and Trading is, I fear, streaming slowly. But as they came in as recently as February 2 at 98p there is no sense in selling them at 106p. UDT also appeared on the same day at 43p and are now 54p. The case for them, (interest rates eventually falling and the chance of a proposition) still holds good.

Let us return to oil. An exciting if obvious way of playing North Sea oil would be to buy shares in Berkeley Exploration. It may or may not find oil and gas. So one day the shares could be worthless.

But consider who benefited from Berkeley's debut on the stock market near the end of last month. Merchant bank Charterhouse, helped by the rise of £64.75p, their fees for helping to bring Berkeley to the stock market. Charterhouse Japhet is only part of Charterhouse Group and not necessarily the most exciting.

And, it must be admitted, most of the varied interests of this conglomerate in engineering, stakes in small companies called development capital, construction, distribution and insurance broking are not wildly exciting either.

In 1978 Charterhouse got only £750,000 of its near £8m profit from Thistle Field oil; in 1979 the group probably had profits of around £9.5m of which something like £3.5m was from oil. At present prices, the group could see total profits of around £15m with as much as £9m from oil as Thistle gushes. If, of course, oil continues to soar in price, these simple sums will need upgrading.

As I said, North Sea oil shares are crazy. Witness Thursday's shakeout on sudden fears that Siebens Oil and Gas had hit a dry well. But Charterhouse already has oil gushing, and at 76p it yields nearly 7 per cent and sells at 11.3 times earnings. It is, on vital figures, the cheapest oil share in the market.

Peter Wainwright

Pensions

Better schemes still favour chosen few

This week the National Association of Pension Funds published its fifth annual report on occupational pension schemes for the year up to January 1979.

The survey covers the pension arrangements of some 1,190 schemes managing assets of £33,710m with a total of six million members. It therefore represents around half the number of these in occupational pension schemes.

One encouraging finding in the report is that benefits in general are steadily improving. Pensions based on your final salary or average salary over the last few years, rather than flat pensions, have become more and more the norm—a big advantage members of occupational pension schemes have over the self-employed.

This is all very well, but what about those who have seen their pensions over the years blighted by inflation?

Here the story is not so good. The report shows that 13 per cent of the schemes—mainly in the private sector—have no increase at all in the pension level during 1978 in spite of an increase of over 3 per cent in the retail price index over the period.

Generally pension funds are unable to do much for past

employees when it comes to safeguarding pensions from inflation. Where schemes did give increases, these were less than 4 per cent in two-thirds of the cases. On the brighter side, one-fifth managed to raise pensions paid to ex-employees in line with the retail price index.

But private sector pension scheme members have no need to rejoice. Although nearly a half (42 per cent) of public sector pension schemes in-



Mr. Michael Pilch, chairman of the National Association of Pension Funds.

creased payments in line with the cost of living—and the survey does not include the most well known index-linked Civil Service pension fund—a minuscule 1 per cent of pension funds in the private sector managed this type of increase.

Bigger funds are more likely to provide some increases in pensions. "Larger schemes tend to be primarily invested, while smaller schemes are run on an insured basis," explains Mr. Michael Pilch, chairman of the National Association of Pension Funds.

Insurance companies give the choice of pension contracts with either flat rate or escalating benefits. But these increasing benefits tend to be limited to the 3 to 5 per cent range.

Around two-thirds of the pension funds in the survey automatically on an annual basis with 47 per cent giving discretionary rises.

But an automatic increase, especially in a private sector fund, is not necessarily as good as it sounds. As Mr. Pilch says, pension fund managers are naturally hesitant to guarantee high levels of increase and could afford to be more cautious.

You might well do better with a fund which pays on a discretionary basis reviewing the situation annually.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating. The £331m ICI Pension Fund has no provision for automatic escalation in its rules. But the company has a declared policy as far as it is able to match increases in the cost of living—although it is doubtful that it can keep matching the high levels of inflation.

For the last seven years it has increased the level of benefits paid to pensioners annually each July. Last time the increase amounted to 10 per cent for those who had been retired for a year or more, and has generally matched the rate of inflation except for two years in the mid-seventies.

A pensioner who retired in 1970 now gets a healthy £286 for each £100 of original pension while for those retiring in 1975 the equivalent figure is £170. He could spare a thought for the less fortunate: anyone who has received only a 3 per cent annual increase in the last five years will find that his £100 has grown to a mere £116.

In the public sector the Post Office and National Coal Board are examples of pension funds which have served their members well.

While the Post Office has its index linked fund, the National

Coal Board has also substantially increased pensions paid to its members in the past 10 years. According to the rules of the funds, increases will only be made if the actuary says they can afford it, but the payments have not fallen much behind the rise in the retail price index.

There are no legal restrictions on increases in pension benefits. Just how much a fund will pay out depends on a number of factors, including the investment performance and the composition of the fund—the ratio of existing pensioners to contributing employees—and is basically left to the discretion of the trustees.

The survey shows that pension schemes are steadily improving benefits payable to members and their dependants. This is of little consolation to those who face ten to twenty years in retirement with the prospect of their pension increasing by under 4 per cent a year against high levels of inflation.

Surely with yields available on investments, in recent years, funded schemes can afford to pay more than a 4 per cent increase from their tax free investments.

Sylvia Morris

Pre-Budget taxation

Why life assurance policies are at a premium

This is the season for all good life assurance salesmen to urge people to start a policy before April 6 to make sure of the tax relief. In most years, this is more or less pure sales talk and it is probably made relatively little difference whether you started a policy before or after the magic date. This year however, it could matter.

The main reason for this is life assurance relief: a 47½ per cent reduction on life assurance premiums. The insurance company claims the relief from the Inland Revenue to make up its shortfall in premium income.

This system, which started in 1979-80, was established when the basic rate of income tax was 35 per cent—life assurance relief was therefore fixed at the traditional level of half the prevailing basic rate, and that is where it has stayed.

The Government has indicated that it would provide the insurance companies with reasonable notice of any change, so it seems virtually certain that the rate of 47½ per cent will no more last through to the end of 1981-82. It may then come down to 15 per cent or less; indeed there have been some doubts expressed about its very existence in the long term.

However, if you start a policy before April 6, 1980, you will at least be entitled to obtain tax relief on two or possibly even three premiums at the present rate.

As a result of the changes which brought in tax relief by deduction you may be entitled to more life assurance relief than you think. Tax relief was always available on premiums up to one-sixth of your income—but now you can automatically obtain the relief on premiums of up to £1,500 a year.

For many people the relief is available at much higher levels than before. Nor do you even have to be a taxpayer to benefit from it.

Although life assurance is generally intended for protection, partly as an unintended consequence of life assurance relief by deduction, you can now use a special kind of policy to make a very quick profit. This is the new one-year or two-year income bond.

For example, Albany Life have a one-year income bond which provides income of 17.25 per cent a year after basic rate tax, equivalent to a gross return of 24.84 per cent per annum. For a top rate 75 per cent taxpayer, the return would be 9.48 per cent.

So, if your longer term life assurance policies do not use your full entitlement to this tax relief, you should consider investing in one of these income bonds. But you really ought to do it before the Budget on

March 26 because legislation against these bonds is expected.

The legislation that introduced against these bonds could also affect the claw-back period for the life insurance policies which stopped early. As present policyholders keep the relief, as long as the policy has been maintained for at least four years, but if the policy is stopped earlier than that, then some of the relief is lost or clawed back.

This claw-back period is extended to eight or ten years from 1980-81 and onwards would make the claw-back period for the life insurance policies which stopped early. As present policyholders keep the relief, as long as the policy has been maintained for at least four years, but if the policy is stopped earlier than that, then some of the relief is lost or clawed back.

While on the subject of insurance, you should also view any single premium insurance bonds you may have bought with a critical eye. In practice it could make sense to hold such bonds for a number of years. In the last Budget, insurance schemes where the option benefit is obtained by them after 4 years.

There is also a good many circumstances for taking a "bed and breakfast" operation on a bond. This would mean surrendering the policy and investing in a new one. Some companies (Legal and General Life, and Hambro Life) specialise in this. The operation is profitable, but expensive.

So, if you are considering two profitable effects: first, increase the base value of investment and therefore reduce the potential cash amount on your final cashment. Second, the increased premium allows a higher 5 per cent free withdrawals in future years to reinvest the bond with a different insurance company, you should take account of the additional charge levied by the new policy.

Word of warning: calculation of the potential liability on a bond "cash" can be complicated, so sure you obtain competent advice or you could make a penny mistake.

Danby Bloch
Raymond Godfray

Round-up

New 10-year life policy • Unit-linked pensions

This weekend, Crusader is joining the handful of conventional life offices offering policyholders options that have long been available on unit-linked contracts with its new 10-year with-profits policy.

As an alternative to simply cashing in the policy at the end of the term, you can pay a premium of £1 a year and take the tax-free proceeds as and when you like—either as a capital sum, a regular income or just make withdrawals when it suits you.

If you leave the money with the company, it earns interest which will be geared to short-term interest rates. Alternatively you can take out a new policy without further medical evidence.

Standard Life is all set to launch its unit-linked pension plan for the self-employed before the end of the tax year. Minimum premium is £400 a year or £40 a month.

Premiums can be increased or reduced without penalty (subject to the minimum) or abandoned completely in later years. Alternatively there is a single premium facility—minimum £200—but this is only available in conjunction with a regular premium plan.

Contributions, which are split into multiple policies so you

can stagger your retirement, can be linked to any of the office's six internal pension funds. There is no minimum requirement for any fund, and switching facilities are available.

Perhaps as a sign of times to come, the annual charge on the funds is 1 per cent a year compared with the industry "norm" of 1½ per cent. First year's premiums are subject to a 6 per cent annual charge. The initial charge is 5 per cent of premiums.

Policyholders of City of Westminster self-employed pension plan now have the choice of three different gift funds as underlying links for their investments.

The idea behind offering funds linked to short, medium and long gilts is to choose the fund which corresponds most closely with your retirement date and, if necessary, switching to the less volatile short fund before retirement.

The address of the Arboricultural Association, referred to in the article "When your house begins to heave," on February 23 is: Brokerswood House, Brokerswood, Near Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 8EH.

Investor's week

Big profits fail to lift gloom

No one likes to leave a party before the host and hostess start yawning. And that is how we stock market folk behaved this week as we tried (and nearly succeeded) in forgetting about Sir Geoffrey Howe and his budget in 18 days' time.

We gawped at the big profits made by our best known users, the big banks. We gawped at the boggling profits conjured by Shell, second only to Exxon, among the seven fabulously rich sisters of the oil industry.

We gloated over government attempts to square the circles of monetary policy. But some-

how doubt, like the hailfall knocking at the door, broke in on our merriment. Over the week, the FT index slipped from 467.1 to 455.7.

Banks have made a great deal of money. But when Shell Transport reported on Thursday we forgot about them, and wondered at the way the Anglo Dutch giant made more money than the big four together: roughly twice as much in fact.

Over the week, news that Shell has been making just over £3,000m a year had the shares down 10p to 39p.

Apart from these distractions, we had a volley of forecasts of

a severe two-year recession (again) from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research; the London Business School; the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris; and the CBI. But they tell on deaf ears. The market nearly kept its spirits up as the government campaign to feed the money market to keep down interest rates, and the leads to the press about the smallness of the public sector borrowing requirement for 1979-80.

But these leaks mean that the Chancellor cannot report this with effect in his Budget speech. By that time we will be speculating about such borrowing in 1980-81 when social security and unemployment benefit will be expensive.

The big upset was in North Sea oil stocks. Here we are indeed in murky waters. Word (but not official) went out that Siebens had struck it rich in the North Sea Brae Field on block 16/3. In 10 weeks the shares more than doubled. Then, on Thursday, came word (but not official) that the well was dry. This took 200p or so off the shares and suspcions that Siebens had a lot of Siebens stock they were anxious to sell: a classic bear raid.

PW

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Rises				
Year's high	Year's low	Company	Change	Comment
73p	44p	Anderson Strath	8p to 72p	Bid taken
151p	101p	Plessey	5p to 146p	Third qtr figs
328p	94p	Rus'sburg Plat	5p to 280p	Deer metal price
198p	127p	Trusthouse Fortes	8p to 178p	Report: broker's circ.
430p	305p	United News	15p to 388p	Annual figs due
Falls				
95p	55p	Fidelity Radio	21p to 58p	Redundancies: three-day week
400p	218p	Furness Withy	10p to 370p	Losses of Monops
276p	168p	Racal Elect	13p to 214p	Commissioner rel
410p	278p	Shell	10p to 390p	Decca loss unexpected
930p	190p	Siebens	380p to 570p	Fears of downturn this year
				Dry hole talk

Guide book for investors

Allied Hambro's Investment Guide 1980 falls short of the expectations inspired by its companion publication, the annual Hambro Tax Guide whether one is looking at from the viewpoint of the professional adviser or the individual investor. There are certain sections which are unusable without reference to another book—which surely defeats the purpose of the guide.

For example, it seems ludicrous that the entire section on National Savings—some five pages—does not once refer to any amount that may be invested or earned tax free. Any investment adviser will know that "there are maximum and minimum holdings".

It is a guide book's function to remind him what they are.

May be they will change, but the book is being updated annually and other contributors had no such inhibitions about reminding readers about such movable beasts as tax levels.

Overall, the book needs tighter editing to bring it up to the standards of some of the better sections and to iron out the inconsistencies and to repair modest but irritating omissions.

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The Great Grimpen Mire saga continued...

Allied Elderberry Wines et al

The following has been received by Miss Agatha Sibling, Hon Sec of the Great Grimpen Mire Investment Committee, from her nephew, Adrian Wolfbane Lustwort, director of merchant bankers Wolfbane Lustwort:

Dear Aunt Agatha,

Thank you for your letter. You ask if the house of Wolfbane Lustwort would be willing to undertake the investment management of the Great Grimpen Mire Investment Committee's portfolio, which you say at present amounts to £100,000 in cash—with the likelihood of further monies accruing in due course from the sale of the remaining half of the Great Grimpen Mire to Great Rockall and Hongkong Mining.

I am, of course, flattered that you felt constrained to recommend us to your committee as investment advisers, but should make clear that the sum of £100,000 is very much at the bottom end of the range within which we normally work. We are prepared, however, to accept your invitation, although should it occur that, due to market circumstances, the value of your investments falls to below £80,000 under our management, we would no longer feel it possible to act on your behalf. This is standard merchant banking practice and nothing should be surprised about, I can assure you.

I recommend the following as a potential portfolio for your committee to consider. You should first place £10,000 in each of three investment media—cash, on deposit, a long-dated gilt-edged stock, and gold—with the remainder of the fund then being in-

vested in 10 equities to the tune of £7,000 each. The £10,000 in cash I suggest should be left on deposit here and used as a fund money for the time being. As for the equity section of your portfolio, my recommendations are as follows:

For the long gilt-edged stock, I suggest Exchange 11½ per cent 2003/07 (the well known "James Bond" issue). As regards the gold, we would buy £10,000 worth of bars for you and sit on them. I say this because our mutual Cousin Lettice (who, you will remember, is a lady of considerable psychic powers) told me confidentially that gold would go to 5800 an ounce in 1980 and £2,000 an ounce in 1982. She is in touch with Tutanankhamun on the "other side" and has been proved right so far, so who am I to knock it?

As for the equity section of your portfolio, my recommendations are as follows:

A share well known to you all because of the local connection, but to mention the highly original chairmanship of Lt Col Rudolph Grog-Bevington, much respected in the City as positioning himself a shade to the right of Genghis Khan. With the inevitable increase in world tension over the next few years people will be drinking even more than they have in the past. Some of the AEW range of products, being clean substitutes for medicated spirits, should rocket in consequence.

Grimpen Mire. It is a widely diversified group with fingers in a multitude of pies, many of them remarkably juicy. The chairman, Lord Tritie of Crickwood, a frequent visitor at our luncheon table and we feel he has a very sound knowledge of claret.

Tiny Business Units

This fund, run by Third Monolithic and General Assets, has sprung onto the bandwagon of investment in small businesses which has rolled so merrily since the election of the Conservative Government. Tiny Business is expert at discovering the right sheds in the back of the right gardens that the right people are inventing the right products in. They have already had great success with stakes in Zorro's Bicycle Operated Pizza Machines and Dr. Faustus Blood Pressure monitors, both of which are sweeping Wantage at this very moment.

Cogg and Spracket

An essential constituent of any portfolio—a traditional Birmingham-based engineering company which is so bombed out in the market that it has nowhere to go but up. Platypus Exploration

manager of this com which has a reputation stolid boredom unma even in the Edinburgh ment community. If every else goes down the pan, frog racing, do-you-remember high and dry but at least diling and damp.

British Alchemit

The next two recommendations, Whoopee La and Electronic Gosh, both a very 1980s flavour them. The first is involved frog racing, do-you-remember high and dry but at least diling and damp.

The latter can be complicated, so sure you obtain competent advice or you could make a penny mistake.

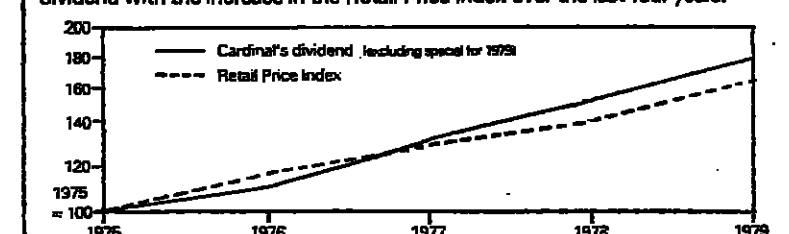
Francis Kinsm

The Cardinal Investment Trust Limited

Highlights of Annual Report for the year to 31st December 1979

	1979	1978	% Change
Net Revenue	£1.06m	£0.86m	+24%
Dividend (including special for 1979)	4.38p	3.37p	+30%
Total Assets	£23.5m	£21.8m	+8%
Assets per share	129.4p	117.1p	+11%

Dividend record The chart compares the increase in the company's annual dividend with the increase in the Retail Price Index over the last four years.



The company's aim is to improve shareholders' income to the greatest possible extent without jeopardising capital growth.

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The Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust Co. Ltd.
General Investors and Trustees, Ltd.
F. & C. European Ltd.
Generosity Fund S.A.
F. & C. Oriental Fund S.A.

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To the Secretary,
The Cardinal Investment Trust Limited,
1/2 Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA
Please send me a copy of the Report & Accounts

Name.....
Address.....

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Stock Exchange Prices

Quiet close to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, March 21. Comango Day, March 24. Settlement Day, March 31.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1929-30				1929-30				1929-30				1929-30				1929-30			
High	Low	Stock	Price	High	Low	Stock	Price	High	Low	Stock	Price	High	Low	Stock	Price	High	Low	Stock	Price
BRITISH FUNDS																			
100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100
100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN																			
100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100
100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100	100	99	Trust	100
LOCAL AUTHORITIES																			
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FOREIGN STOCKS																			
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DOLLAR STOCKS																			
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BANKS AND DISCOUNTS																			
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BREWERS AND DISTILLERS																			
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PROPERTY																			
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TEA																			
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MISCELLANEOUS																			
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Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing Shoparound with Beryl Downing

The Ideal Home exhibition turns up every year like Beaujolais nouveau—mediocre rather than memorable, but particularly palatable if you have been on the wagon for a while. So perhaps the reason I enjoyed this year's offering was because I haven't "done" the exhibition for some time.

The unfortunate proliferation of indifferent furniture stands which line the route to the five show houses made me feel I had walked into a long-running soap-opera. They all looked exactly the same as they did years ago. Why they all make their stands look like mini-department stores I cannot understand.

There seems to me to be only one effective way of displaying furniture: at an exhibition or in a shop, and that is as a room-set. Why don't the exhibitors turn their stands into room-sets—open versions, if you like, of the houses themselves? People need to see furniture as it would look in their own homes and I am sure visitors would be grateful for the opportunity of gleaning extra decoration ideas without having to queue interminably for the show houses. Does anyone have the stamina to file through them all?

If your spirit is willing, but your feet are weak, I suggest you just visit the Countrycraft house, whose furnishings by Designers Guild are quite the prettiest of all the houses I visited. I can't speak for the Davis Estate house, as they wouldn't let me see their interior because they were having a "private reception", which seemed somewhat at variance with the purpose of press day. Incidentally, Designers Guild have produced a superb book called *Soft Furnishings*, with lots of coloured illustrations to give you copiable ideas and plenty of practical advice on making all sorts of furnishings. Published by Pan, the book costs £4.95 at the exhibition or, with p.p., £5.95 from Designers Guild, 277 Kings Road, London SW3 5EN.

Watching other people work is always a riveting pastime, particularly when their craft is an unusual one. On the Skill in Action stand I was fascinated to see artists from the Canterbury Stained Glass Company cutting, leading and painting their glowing sheets of solidified colour. Designer-director Jonathan Groves told me that stained glass is by no means confined to church windows these days. There has been quite a revival of interest in its use as door panels and as design features in office blocks.

"The cost of building is so enormous that architects are often forced by their limited budgets to put up very basic buildings. For a few hundred pounds they can include a stained glass panel which gives sparkle and colour and lifts the boredom of the concrete."

The Canterbury team specializes in painting on the stained glass, which comes to them in coloured sheets from the glass blowers. Their technique gives extra tone and depth—they even achieve shading on the cheeks of their figures.

They have a range of designs in standard sizes which would be suitable for door panels, which cost around £50 to £60 a square foot painted, and £40 to £45 in plain stained glass.

They are also prepared to create designs especially for you, and will visit your home to discuss the possibilities of the site you have in mind. For details write to the Canterbury Stained Glass Company, 53 Palace Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2DZ.

Two other stands had particularly interesting items. The first was British Gas, where Cannon's 1200G Hotplate was on display for the first time. It is a separate hob unit to be set in a worktop and has not only the standard four burners but an integral non-stick griddle, heated from below.

On it you can cook hamburgers, drop scones, eggs, bacon or anything else that can be dry-fried. You simply wipe it clean, or if you do spill food down the sides, the whole griddle lifts off for cleaning. With its flat cover in place it can also be used as a warming plate. The price is £219 and North Thames Gas showrooms are taking orders for it now. Delivery should be within a few weeks.

The other stand with a good story to tell could easily be missed. It is Astraseal, stand 216, in the corner just behind the Barratt House. They specialize in PVC framed, double-glazed replacement windows.

Having lived for a time in Switzerland, I have always been surprised by the extraordinary impracticability of windows in this country. Why are flats and offices built with windows that can only be cleaned from the outside? Well-designed windows should open inwards, or swivel on a centre pivot; double glazing should prevent condensation (mine is aluminium and doesn't) and large picture windows and patio doors should be able to give ventilation without offering open-house to every sneak thief in the area.

Astraseal windows meet all these requirements. They have a special two-way opening device which will tilt the window vertically or can be used to open the window conventionally, but inwards. The patio doors have a sliding lock mechanism which allows them to be pulled open about 6 inches, where they lock, allowing in air but not intruders. With a touch of the foot the lock is released and the doors can slide completely open.

There are three British standards of weatherproof windows—sheltered, moderate and severe—and Astraseal conforms to the most stringent. They are not confined to modern houses, but can be fitted to any style, from Georgian to charred cottage, as all are made to measure.

Prices? Each commission will be individual, but they compare reasonably with other companies. A friend recently had patio doors fitted, 12ft 6in x 8ft 6in, with transoms. They cost £1,000, actually seem to create condensation and are thoroughly unsatisfactory. Astraseal's would cost about the same, but you'd be getting your money's worth.

If you would like to know more about window replacement, they have just produced a booklet which tells you how to recognize signs of deterioration in your existing windows and what types of replacement are possible. It also gives practical and less expensive solutions to some common problems such as badly fitting frames, decay and draughts.

To obtain a copy, send a stamped, addressed envelope, 8½in x 4½in, to Consumer Advisory Booklet, Repworth Astraseal, Pollard Moor Works, Padham, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 7JR. You can also get names of local suppliers from the same address.

The Carron 1200G gas burners and griddle, £219, from North Thames Gas showrooms.



Last Sunday I ceased to be a selective shopper and was turned instantly into a crabby consumer by one of the excuses for the proposed increases in electricity costs given by Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, on BBC's World This Weekend.

He told us that because of the very mild winter, the steel strike and other things, he was selling rather less electricity than he expected and he went on to say that when demand doesn't materialize, then costs tend to increase and so do prices.

Why? The CEBG must have had to put up with mild winters in the past, just like coat manufacturers, glove manufacturers and all others whose best sales figures depend on the weather. Yes, their prices have steadily gone up, too. But because of increased labour costs, overheads and so on. Not just because they miscalculated, or because some event outside their control meant that they sold less than they had expected.

Not so many years ago a small manufacturer used to draw in his horns, pare down his expenses, grit his teeth and double his efforts—and keep his prices down so that he was more competitive next year. I know, because my closest friend married one. It is obviously greatly to her disadvantage that he was never nationalized.

If you are planning a trip to Tottenham Court Road during the next month you might like to visit Head's basement to try some of Crabtree and Evelyn's new products.

There are exotic jams, including guava, mango and passion fruit at £1.85 a 12oz jar, six different flavours of mustard, including lime and green pepper, at £1.25 for 200 grams, six wine vinegars at 75p and a first pressing olive oil at £2.95. I particularly liked a special olive oil containing grape seeds and whole branches of herbs at £3.75.

New additions to the toiletry range include a pleasant eau de cologne, very lemony and fresh, at £6.95, pretty packs of miniature guest soaps at £2.25 and 6 overtones of aniseed which you may like if you are a Pernod addict.

The promotion lasts until April 5 and if you can't get to the meetings, the products will be available at other Crabtree and Evelyn stockists which include Kendal Milne, Manchester and Rackhams, Birmingham.

Below: From the Marks and Spencer beachwear range in

major stores this week—a jump suit in cyclamen or bright

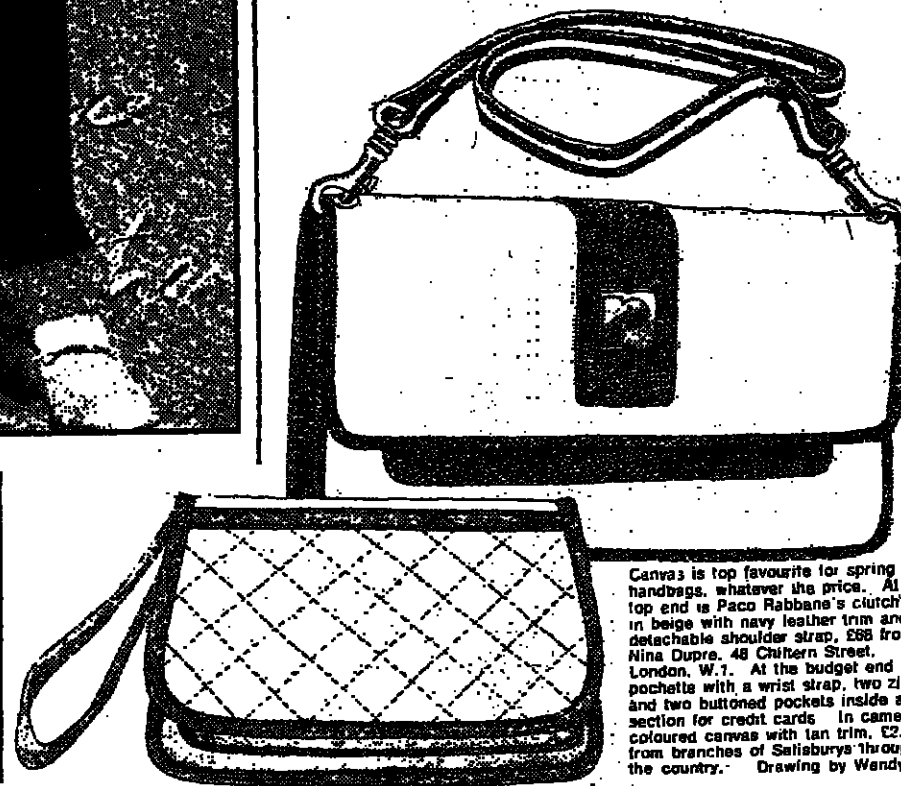
blue cotton and polyester towelling, £7.99, and a dress

in the same colours, banded in navy and white, £9.99.

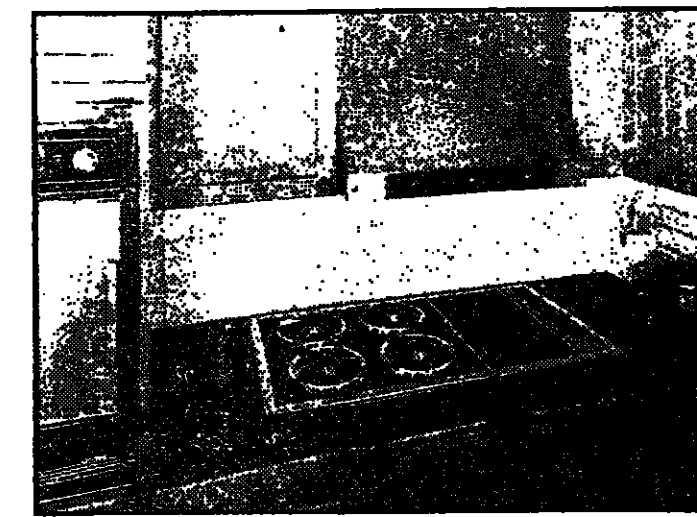
Sizes 10 to 16, and there are matching bikinis.

Best value denim jeans around cost only £7.99 from Tesco. We tried them on three figure types—petite, skinny and distinctly dumpling—and the cut suited them all. Sizes 10 to 18. The blouse in white with red and blue stripes, is £3.99, sizes 12 to 18. Both from major Tesco Home & Wear stores. Red canvas shoulder bag with leather trim £3.99 from branches of Salsburys.

Photograph by Eric Howard



Canvas is top favourite for spring handbags, whatever the price. At the top end is Paco Rabanne's clutch bag in beige with new leather trim and detachable shoulder strap, £88 from Nina Dupre, 48 Chiltern Street, London W1. At the budget end is a pochette with a wrist strap, two zipped and two buttoned pockets inside and a section for credit cards in camouflage, £2.99 from branches of Salsburys throughout the country. Drawing by Wendy Jones



Good news for people with problem skins and limited budgets. Marks and Spencer have this week launched a range of cosmetics and skin treatments called *Fragrance Free*. They are careful not to say that the products are non-allergenic, but as scent is the ingredient most likely to create an allergy to skin products, you can draw your own conclusions.

There is a freshener, a toner, a moisturizing lotion and a night cream, each at £1.25, a creamy cleanser at £1.75 and a range of four lipsticks, three eyeshades, three shades of foundation, two shades of powder cream blusher and one tran-

slucient powder. These cost 99p each.

The pale green packaging is very up-market and, having tried the creams, I would particularly recommend them for normal and greasy skins. You might find them slightly undernourishing for very dry skins. The lipsticks are creamy, and the foundation very light and unobtrusive.

Distribution is limited at the moment to the central London and Kensington branches and those at Birmingham, Brighton, Bromley, Liverpool, Maidenhead, Manchester, Sheffield, Solihull and Glasgow, but if you make loud enough demands in other branches you will probably find the list of stockists extended fairly soon.

The rumblings in the art world about the doubtful authenticity of a group of Old Master drawings (*The Times*, March 3) made me wonder exactly when a reproduction becomes a fake. The obvious answer is when it pretends to be the original, when its aim is to deceive. But it must also be something to do with our own definition of value.

Suppose you have lived for years with a picture or a piece of furniture you believed to be genuine—you got it for a song, years ago, so the amount you paid is irrelevant. Then an expert tells you it is a copy. Do you instantly stop liking it? The answer, more often than not, is yes. You now have to defend your attachment to the

piece because other people's aesthetic judgement of it is very much bound up with its value in the market place. Yet the day before the expert gave his opinion, your picture was the same colour, painted by the same artist, your furniture had the same lines, made by the same craftsman. It just isn't "real" any more.

Now if the same philosophy were applied to women, where should we—and our hairdressers—all be? There was a time when bottle-blondes were distinctly suspect. I went around for years as a red-head because I thought my own natural fairness was a cliché. Being a busty blonde is one thing when you have a grown-up son to guarantee your mother-image. Quite another when you were 22 and

anxious not to be type-cast in your local dramatic society.

Today, however, unless you are an earnest intellectual married to a nuclear scientist based in Scotland, you are actually expected to do the decent thing and "lift" the colour of your hair, the height of your chin or, indeed, any other part of your anatomy that might be doubling or dropping. Which brings me to the cause of all this introspection. I have been looking at fake diamonds. Very, very good fake diamonds. In fact, diamonds that fool not only the experts but the burglars.

They are made of cubic zirconia, which originated in Russia as a by-product of the space-age, and consists of crystals formed by submitting

oxides to incredibly high temperatures and pressure. They can be cut and faceted like diamonds and the only way experts can tell them apart is by ultra-sound or by the felt pen test, which produces a series of dots on cubic zirconia, which costs about £50 a carat, and an unbroken line on a diamond which, depending on quality, can cost from £1,000 a carat upwards.

The people specializing in these fakes are Windsor Jewels at 10 Beauchamp Place, London SW3. I make no apology for the word "fake" as the only possible reason for wearing something that can be detected from a diamond is to pretend that's just what it is.

The shop is part of an international chain set up by two ex-advertising men (sic) who at first refused to believe that the restrained British feel that 21 carats—about 9mm diameter—is as much kitsch as they can get away with. In their Palm Beach shop the average sale is \$4,000—and for that money you get an awful lot of fake sparkle—but after trying a few rock-size rocks in Beauchamp Place, they had to take them back to America, unsold.

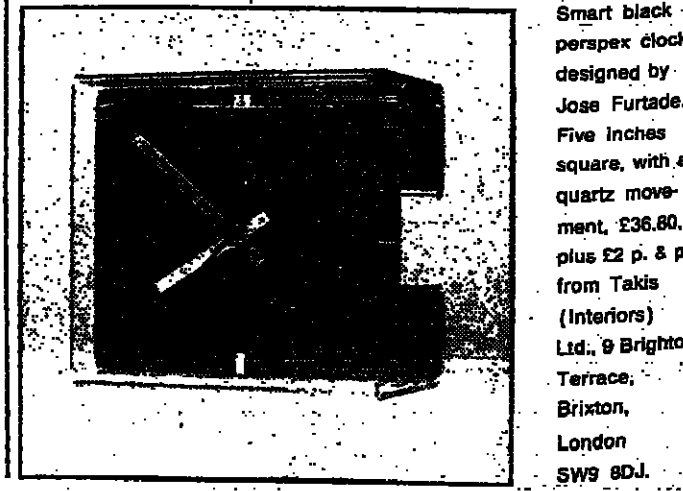
But what is the fun of having a diamond that isn't real? Do women buy them for themselves to impress other women? Would you love a man who said, "Darling, come with me to buy a fake engagement ring?" Or, worse still, one who didn't own up.

The one useful contribution this man-made marvel can make, it seems to me, is in the bear-the-burglars game. If you have a family heirloom that costs a fortune to insure and if you live in London and pay 21 to 3 per cent all risks, you could put the jewels in the bank, save the insurance money for two years and spend it on having a copy made, which you could then safely wear to the hunt ball.

But beware the believability factor. At one time, if you were the colonel's lady you could wear fake and everyone would assume it was real, and if you were Susie O'Grady you could sport your only inheritance and it would be assumed to be a vulgar imitation. Today, everyone knows the colonel's lady had to pawn the tiara to pay for the roof on the west wing and everyone suspects that Susie's Cartier bracelet is some body else's husband's tax loss.



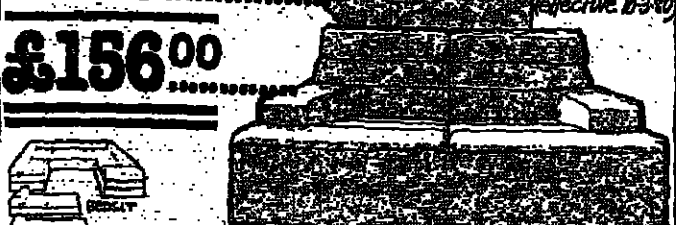
Pretty and practical baby dress in white polyester and cotton with coloured spots and braid trimming. For 6-18 months, £5.50 from Army & Navy stores at Guildford, Camberley, Bromley, Chichester, Maidstone, and Eastbourne from next Saturday.



Smart black perspex clock designed by Jose Furtado. Five inches square, with a quartz movement, £36.80, plus £2 p. & p from Takis (Interiors) Ltd., 9 Brighton Terrace, Brixton, London SW9 8DJ.

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